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## STEADFASTNESS CONFERENCE HELD IN DAMASCUS 16 JAN

### Khaddam's Opening Address

JN161509 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1215 GMT 16 Jan 80 JN

[Text] Damascus--The conference of the foreign ministers of the pan-Arab Front for Steadfastness and Confrontation states began at 1030 today. The opening of the conference was attended by the Algerian, Libyan, PDRY and Syrian foreign ministers and the PLO representative. The conference was opened by Abd al-Halim Khaddam, [Syrian] deputy prime minister and minister of foreign affairs, who delivered a welcoming speech to the conferees.

Abd al-Halim Khaddam said: I have the pleasure of welcoming you to this emergency meeting of the foreign ministers of the steadfastness and confrontation states, a meeting held at a time when the Arab nation is facing a new series of Camp David plots which are aimed at tightening the noose around the Arab nation, imposing hegemony not only on the Arab nation, but also on west Asia and South Africa, and striking at and harming the achievements of the world's peoples made during the past years.

Abd al-Halim Khaddam pointed out that this stage puts the region and world at a critical turning point and that it has led and will lead to the obstruction of the march of the international detente policy. The deputy prime minister and foreign affairs minister said that the U.S. position concerning Iran's policy and the exploitation of the recent developments in Afghanistan will lead to an international conflict.

Abd al-Halim Khaddam affirmed that through such a policy in the region, the United States seeks to entrench its military presence, particularly now that the Camp David pact has achieved an economic and political presence for it.

Abd al-Halim Khaddam stated that the initiative of head of the Egyptian regime Anwar as-Sadat, who betrayed the Arab nation through giving the United States air and naval bases in Egypt, reveals another side to the Camp David policy and its declared and secret agreements concerning the Arab world and the entire world.

Abd al-Halim Khaddam stated that those who are attempting to show the world that they are defending Islam and Muslims are, at the same time, giving aid to the colonialist Zionists, who are occupying Arab Jerusalem and killing Arabs and Muslims in southern Lebanon and Jerusalem. Abd al-Halim Khaddam pointed out that those who wish to defend Islam and Muslims must confront Zionist colonialism.

The deputy prime minister and foreign affairs minister said: We cannot imagine Islam being the ally of imperialism, Zionism and all those plotting against the Arab nation and Islam.

Khaddam added: What is astonishing and, even more, what reveals the nature of the conspiratorial schemes, is the move initiated by the power which fought Islam and Muslims. What I mean here is that the British foreign secretary and the U.S. secretary of state have made a move to help Islam and Muslims. Khaddam said: If the U.S. and British policies are so concerned over Islam and Muslims, why then do they give all forms of backing and aid to the Zionists, who are the enemies of the Arabs and Muslims? Indeed, those who give such support and aid to Israel cannot be anything other than the enemy of Islam and the Muslims.

Khaddam said: Those who believe that they can create a tense psychological state and are practicing political intimidation under the guise of using slogans which they oppose, are mistaken, since the Arabs and Muslims can well distinguish their friends from their enemies, and since this Arab nation can never ignore those who are trying to annihilate it. Neither can the Arab nation ever compare those elements with the friendly Soviet Union, which is giving us backing and support in our just struggle. Thus, how can we even make a comparison between the hand which is offering us aid and friendship and the hand which is attacking us? Indeed, the possibility of deluding the peoples has become limited.

The foreign affairs minister concluded: No doubt, we are passing through a difficult and dangerous stage, which necessitates serious work in order to bolster our nations steadfastness in the face of all the imperialist and Zionist plots, a steadfastness which was approved by the Baghdad summit conference. We are confident in the inevitability of our Arab nation's victory and ability to attain its aims.

The foreign ministers of the Steadfastness and Confrontation Front then began discussing the conferences agenda, which includes the situation in the Arab world and west Asia, the Islamic conference and any issues that might arise from that conference.

Qaddumi's Statement

NC161852 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic to the Arab World 1745 GMT 16 Jan 80 NC

[Text] Chairman of the PLO Political Department brother Abu al-Lutf has stated that the first round of talks of the steadfastness and confrontation countries' foreign ministers held in Damascus today dealt with the international situation and the latest developments in the area--particularly the U.S. threats to the Middle East countries--as well as the schemes aimed at exploiting the events in Afghanistan to camouflague U.S. plans to establish military bases and to form new alliances against the interests of the peoples of the area and the world.

JANA Report on Conference

LD161954 Tripoli JANA in English 1813 GMT 16 Jan 80 LD

[Text] Damascus, January 16, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY--The foreign ministers of steadfastness and confrontation states held a closed meeting at 1:00 pm at Sheraton Hotel hall in Damascus.

They had held their first session at 11:00 am today. JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY correspondent in Damascus said that the foreign ministers reviewed the current Arab situation and the developments which took place by the undertaking of the surrendering Egyptian regime of more capitulatory steps towards the Zionist enemy including the normalization of relations between the Zionist and his treasonous regime.

Final Statement

JN162247 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 2130 GMT 16 Jan 80 JN

[Text] Damascus--The foreign ministers of the pan-Arab Front for Steadfastness and Confrontation states ended their 1-day conference this evening.

The final statement of the conference says: The conference has discussed the general international situation and the developments in the Arab homeland and the Islamic countries, particularly those developments that are taking place within the context of the Camp David partners continued plots against the security of the Arab and Islamic peoples and their future, against the legitimate inalienable rights of the Palestinian people and against the occupied Arab and Palestinian territories.

The conference also discussed the role being played by the imperialist forces under the United States in heightening tension in international relations, obstructing the policy of international detente, reviving the cold war, setting up aggressive military bases and establishing military alliances, axes and blocs in an attempt to subjugate the peoples of the developing countries and the national liberation movements to their will by means of exploiting the recent events in Iran and Afghanistan to cover their imperialist schemes and premeditated aggressive objectives.

The conference noted with deep concern the serious maneuvers of U.S. policy to dismember the unity of the nonalined movement and to make it deviate from its principles and objectives, which have been confirmed during its various conferences, particularly during its sixth conference.

The conference reviewed the serious role being played by the Camp David partners in forming an aggressive alliance, particularly within the context of their military cooperation. The conference also reviewed the Egyptian regime's role in this plot and in opening wide the doors of fraternal Egypt to U.S. influence and a U.S. military presence as a prelude to placing the entire area under the control of the United States in the service of Zionism and world imperialism and to setting up new bases in the Indian Ocean, the Red Sea and the eastern and western parts of the Arab homeland.

The conference asserted that the military maneuvers conducted by the Egyptian regime with the participation of the Zionist enemy and the United States is aimed against the Arab nation. The Egyptian regime's stand toward the events in Iran and Afghanistan reaffirm this regime's determination, manifested since it departed from the Arab nation and betrayed its objectives, to cooperate with U.S. imperialism and Zionism and to assist them in militarily and economically controlling and expanding the area. For this, the regime has placed the land of fraternal Egypt into a position of being a crossing for U.S. imperialism and Zionism to expand, and returned to the policy of alliance, axes and military blocs and to revive the cold war, which has only brought subservience, backwardness and destruction to the world, particularly the developing countries.

The conference has been assured that the uproar fabricated by world imperialism, led by the United States, in collusion with Israel and the Egyptian regime about the events in Iran and Afghanistan, is aimed at deviating the Arab and Islamic peoples, at splintering Arab solidarity, at enabling the Camp David accords to end their impasse and at driving a wedge between the Arab nation and its friends, led by the Soviet Union and the other socialist countries.

The United States is trying to claim that it is defending Islam and the Muslims in order to achieve its objectives. The United States is doing so at a time when it was and continues to conspire against the Iranian Revolution and to supply the Zionist enemy with the most sophisticated weapons to carry out its expansion and aggression, to continue its occupation, to annex the Arab and Palestinian land--particularly holy Jerusalem--and to attack and desecrate the Islamic sanctities.

Hence, the Camp David partners have disclosed their basic scheme in the attempt to strike at the Arab and Islamic peoples targets. Their scheme is to disintegrate the Arab or Islamic solidarity, end the isolation of the Egyptian regime and preoccupy the Arabs and Muslims with false dangers far removed from the real danger, represented by the Zionist-U.S. aggression.

In the thinking of the Camp David partners, the right of sovereignty of the Arab and Islamic countries and peoples, including Iran and Afghanistan, means subjugation to the will of imperialism and Zionism.

Aware of this scheme and its objectives, the Arab and Islamic people know who their friends and enemies are and believe that their primary cause continues to remain the Palestinian cause and the liberation of Palestinian and Arab territories from Israeli occupation. These peoples can never look upon or interpret events outside the framework of their outlook on this primary issue, since they have learned through experience that imperialist and Zionist forces--which were behind the Palestinian peoples displacement, the usurpation of their inalienable national rights and the occupation of Palestinian and Arab territories--can never be loyal to or sincere toward the people's aspirations for liberation, progress and peace based on justice.

While highly evaluating the resolutions of the 10th conference of Islamic foreign ministers in Fes, the resolutions of the sixth conference of nonalined heads of state and government in Havana, the positions of socialist countries--with the Soviet Union at their head--the conference would like, first of all, to stress that the resolutions of the pan-Arab Front of Steadfastness and Confrontation constitute the basis for the decisive confrontation of the Camp David course and that of its parties.

Proceeding from these resolutions, the conference calls for the strengthening and development of the Tunis and Baghdad summit conferences' resolutions, particularly with regard to the effective confrontation of U.S. imperialism and Zionist expansion and the intensification of the isolation of the Egyptian regime and the commitment to the comprehensive boycott of this regime.

Second, the conference decides to send the following cable to the secretary general of the Islamic Conference Organization and to all Islamic governments:

The Islamic Conference Organization came into existence in the wake of the fire at the Al-Aqsa Mosque in holy Jerusalem. Thus, the conference shoulders the responsibility of defending holy Jerusalem, and will not allow imperialist forces and their allies to exploit the conference in order to transform the noble and honorable objectives for which it was founded. Therefore, the conference of the foreign ministers of the pan-Arab Front of Steadfastness and Confrontation, convening in Damascus on 16 January 1980, asks you to communicate the following proposals to member states:

1. To postpone the opening date of the Islamic conference to a later date because 26 January is the date of the normalization of relations between the Egyptian regime and the Zionist entity. This normalization is a serious step among the various steps of normalizing relations between them. Convening the conference on the proposed date will cover up for this treacherous step by attracting Arab, Islamic and world public attention to the conference, instead of confronting the real dangers resulting from this new, serious step.

2. To convene this conference in Saudi Arabia, as it is the headquarters of the Islamic Conference Organization.

3. To include the following subjects in the conferences agenda:

A. The normalization of relations between the Egyptian regime and the Zionist entity and what results from this in regard to the violation of the Palestinian Arab people's rights to repatriation, self-determination and the establishment of their independent state on their national soil, and to the consecration of the occupation of the Palestinian and Arab territories and the relinquishment of holy Jerusalem.

B. The U.S. threats of military aggression against the region's peoples.

C. The establishment of the U.S. military bases in some of the region's countries, such as Egypt and Oman.

Third. The Steadfastness and Confrontation Front conference condemns the U.S. schemes and the deceptive imperialist and Zionist campaigns, which harm Islam and its high values. These values are used as a cover for their expansionist aggressive purposes. The conference also calls on all the Arab and Islamic states to be alert to these schemes and to confront them united in order to topple them and safeguard the principles of the nonalined movement and the Islamic Conference Organization.

Fourth. The conference declares its support for the Iranian Revolution and the Iranian Muslim people in defending their freedom, independence, sovereignty and control of their resources and in ending of imperialist hegemony, which the United States is trying to impose on them once again.

Fifth. The conference stresses its respect for Afghanistan's will to defend its homeland, the safety of its territories and its nonalinement.

Sixth. The conference declares its determination to consolidate the pan-Arab Front of Steadfastness and Confrontation, to enhance its role and to develop its departments in a manner that serves the Arab nation's objectives.

Seventh. The conference warns against any attempt to build foreign military bases in the Arab homeland, since this will lead the Arab region to the kiln of international struggle and rob the region's states of their national independence and nonalinement.

Eighth. The Arab nation will not be dragged into achieving some of the plot's aims by harming the relations of friendship and cooperation existing between the Arab nation and the socialist bloc, headed by the Soviet Union.

Ninth. The conference calls on the Arab masses and all their national forces to make a major move on 26 January 1980 to express their indignation and denunciation of the new treasonous step undertaken by the Egyptian regime in normalizing relations with the Zionist enemy.

BAHRAIN

FOREIGN MINISTER ON CURRENT REGIONAL, INTERNATIONAL ISSUES

NC170950 Manama GULF NEWS AGENCY in Arabic 0545 GMT 17 Jan 80 NC

[Text] Manama, 17 January--Bahraini Foreign Minister Shaykh Muhammad ibn Mubarak Al Khalifah has urged the Arab Gulf States to organize and arrange their affairs in a manner that would provide them w h enough strength and impregnability to keep the Gulf area out of the superpowers nflict. He said: If they work seriously and sincerely and cooperate among ther lves, the Gulf states would once again be able to make this area of prosperity that deals with the world from the premise of common interests and respect for the sovereignty of all states.

In an interview he gave to the Bahraini newspaper AKHBAR AL-KHALIJ today, the Bahraini foreign minister affirms that the only way to keep the area free from international conflict and to safeguard it as an area of stability and prosperity is to introduce a new method of doing business among its states in the political, economic and defense spheres--a method that would unite them more and put them in a strong position to face all challenges from any source.

Shaykh Muhammad ibn Mubarak believes that the present method, which concentrates on coordinating and integrating the Gulf states, must in the future move to a stage of unionist integration. This is because there is no place in the world at this time for small and weak states, but only for a regional cooperation to defend any area. He says: It behooves the Gulf states to reach a level of cooperation that could rise to the level of unity. There can be no alternative to this in order to face the huge changes and the fierce onslaught of the logic and new colonialism.

The Bahraini foreign minister stresses that each Gulf state must have a clear strategy and a studied policy that is based on a sound scientific concept and that is capable of action, of implementation and of dealing with others and strongly confronting the international changes.

Answering a question on the concerted campaign that the Western media in general and the U.S. media in particular are launching against the Gulf states, Shaykh Muhammad ibn Mubarak says: There are some who are striving to weaken and harm the region's world economic role and distort its stands, which are based on its people's interests and on their aspiration for a better life.

The Bahraini foreign minister held world Zionism, which exploits the information media, responsible for distorting the reputation of the entire Arab nation in the Gulf and elsewhere. He says: It is time that an integrated gulf information network is established to confront these campaigns. He demands that the Gulf states adopt unified stands and a clear method of explain their point of view to the world through their own information media. He also demands that the Gulf information media highlight the cultural role they are carrying out in the area to achieve prosperity both for their people and for other people throughout the world.

Shaykh Muhammad ibn Mubarak praises the meeting of the Gulf states information ministers, which was held in Riyadh in December, saying: It was the beginning of a Gulf move that we hope will achieve what is appropriate for the good of the region in particular and the Arab question in general.

Answering a question on Arab differences, the Bahraini foreign minister expresses his hope that the Arabs will understand each other and unite their ranks, saying: A disagreement between one Arab country and another only serves the interests of the common enemy and of ambitious states, which believe that the Arab differences are in their interest.

The minister refers to the continuous Arab efforts to bring views closer together and to close the gaps in fraternal relations. He also lauds the unified Arab action, which has often settled differences and closed gaps.

Concerning the recent reports that the United States has asked for military bases and facilities in the Gulf, the Bahraini foreign minister asserts that his country has not received any requests in this regard.

Reaffirming Bahrain's rejection of military bases, the minister says: We do not believe in nor agree to the granting of military bases to any state, particularly the major powers, because we believe that the defense of an area is the responsibility of the area itself. Bahrain will never be ready to enable any foreign state to establish bases on its territory, not even if such a request is made to it.

Regarding the Gulf states, the minister says he has no knowledge of any of them giving any bases or promising any foreign state permission to establish bases on their territories.

Concerning the blatant Soviet intervention in Afghanistan, the Bahraini foreign minister says: This intervention endangers the independence not only of Afghanistan but of all states throughout the world without exception. The success of Russia in Afghanistan could open the way for a strong state to annex a militarily weaker one and impose the regime it deems appropriate. He would thus enter a new era of colonialism in the eighties. On the other hand, it is the USSR's strategy to reach or get closer to the oil areas in the world. Whenever the Soviet Union feels that it will suffer a shortage in its oil production, we see it getting closer and closer to the sources of energy--not through the internationally recognized method of understanding and consultation, but through blatant invasion.

Shaykh Muhammad ibn Mubarak praises the UN's position on giving the Afghan people the right to self-determination and preventing any state from carrying out such an action.

The Bahraini foreign minister expects the world to face more acute and serious problems in this decade. He attributes this to several reasons, the most important of which being the disturbed and unstable economic situation and the feeling of the majority of the developing states concerning the oppression and injustice by the industrial states, which are not interested in narrowing the gap between the two. He says: This feeling will interact and continue to have serious consequences in the form of internal or regional disturbances.

Concerning the Arab region, the Bahraini foreign minister says: The problems are many. Due to the present explosive situation, the Arab-Israeli conflict will inevitably have serious repercussions in the area that could lead to serious explosions if the Arabs do not realize that the Zionist enemy is doing all it can to detonate any inter-Arab disagreement because its policy is based on sowing dissension and exacerbating Arab differences.

To a question on why the Arab states have not provided an alternative to the Camp David settlements and why they have not drawn up a strategy to conduct the conflict with the Zionist enemy, the minister says: The Arab stand was clarified at the 1978 Baghdad and 1979 Tunis conferences. The Arab stand is based on rejecting any separate solution with the Zionist enemy because this would provide for a withdrawal from the territory of a specific state only. On this basis, the two conferences reaffirmed in rejection of any solution that does not guarantee the Palestinian people their full rights, including their right to determine their fate on their own territory, and that does not provide for a total Israeli withdrawal from the Arab territories occupied in 1969. He adds: There is no way of solving the Palestinian question by war or peace except through the establishment of a strong Arab combat front, because Israel was originally established by war and by a combat force.

Concerning the nature of the Arab reaction if Egypt and Israel exchange diplomatic representation in February, the foreign minister says: A stand will, of course, be adopted. Economic resolutions were adopted at the Baghdad and Tunis conferences. When the Arab League Council meets in March, a new concept will be presented and the necessary stands will be adopted.

Regarding recent reports that contacts are underway to convene a conference of Arab Gulf foreign ministers, Shaykh Muhammad ibn Mubarak affirms that bilateral contacts are continuing among officials in the area. I can even say that such contacts are taking place daily to exchange views on matters of interest to the countries in the area.

Regarding the meeting itself, whether on the level of foreign ministers or any other level, the minister says: We in Bahrain always welcome and strive to hold any meeting among the brothers in the area. We believe that it is extremely necessary to intensify meetings among the ministers in the area. We support the holding of any meeting within this framework.

Referring to the Lebanese problem, the Bahraini foreign minister expresses his belief that any relaxation in the Middle East crisis as a whole would help in solving the Lebanese crisis because this complicated crisis is closely connected with the Middle East issue.

Concerning Bahrain's relations with Iran, the minister says: It is the policy of Bahrain to establish strong relations based on friendship and common interests with its neighbors. We are always working to strengthen our relations with the Muslim neighbor and we want the spirit of Islam, which binds all of us together, and of neighborliness to prevail.

## KUWAIT

### OFFICIAL DENIES SPECIAL EMBASSY GUARDS TO BE SENT TO TEHRAN

LD161336 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1225 GMT 16 Jan 80 LD

[Text] Kuwait--Kuwait today denied a local press report that it intended to send a special Kuwaiti Army force to Tehran to protect its embassy building and diplomats there.

The denial came from a Foreign Ministry official spokesman in reply to an item in the Kuqaiti paper AS-SIYASAH saying Kuwait asked Iran to allow it to send this force to protect its embassy building and diplomats' residences "against any possible attack by irresponsible elements" in the wake of the occupation of the American Embassy which led to the holding of its diplomats as hostages since the beginning of last November.

AS-SIYASAH stated that the Iranian Revolution Council agreed to the request "following contacts and consultations over a number of weeks between the governments of the two countries, followed by deciding on the strength of the Kuwait force and what type of arms would suit its basic mission."

However, the spokesman said no contacts have taken place between Kuwait and its Muslim neighbor Iran in this matter and that the topic was not discussed at all. He described the report as an utter fabrication without any truth at all.

DJIBOUTI FOREIGN MINISTER ARRIVES FOR TALKS

LD151408 Kuwait Domestic Service in Arabic 1000 GMT 15 Jan 80 LD

[Text] At noon today the Djibouti Minister of Foreign Affairs Moumin Bahadon Farah arrived in Kuwait for a few days visit. He was received at the airport by Shaykh Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Jabir, deputy premier and foreign minister; Rashid 'Abd al-'Aziz ar-Rashid, under secretary at the Foreign Ministry, and Hamad ar-Rujayb, the chief of protocol at the Foreign Ministry. Bahadon Farah said on arrival that he is carrying a message to his highness the amir from his brother the Djibouti President Hassan Gouled. He added that his talks in Kuwait will focus on bilateral relations, developments in the Palestinian issue and the situation in Afghanistan.

Talks Begin

LD161418 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1200 GMT 16 Jan 80 LD

[Summary] The foreign minister of Djibouti met today with his Kuwaiti counterpart. They discussed Arab issues and the Soviet intervention in Afghanistan. An official spokesman said the talks dealt with bilateral relations and the means of developing and strengthening them. They also dealt with a number of current Arab problems and the Palestine question. He added that Soviet intervention in Afghanistan was discussed at the meeting.

Both Kuwait and Djibouti have condemned the Soviet intervention and have agreed to attend the emergency conference of Islamic counties' foreign ministers scheduled to beld in Pakistan on 26 January.

AL-HADAF REPORTS SECURITY OFFICIAL'S REMARKS ON DEPORTATIONS

LD170954 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 0707 GMT 17 Jan 80 LD

[Text] Kuwait--A senior Kuwaiti security official was quoted today as saying that the authorities have deported about 18,000 foreigners from Kuwait in the past 3 months for violating residence and working laws.

The weekly AL-HADAF said public security director Brig Muhammad Al-Hamad has denied to the paper that these deportation campaigns are only directed against specific nationalities. He said the campaigns are not new and that they are carried out throughout the year by the security forces, but that they were recently intensified following the increase in the crime rate in certain regions. Brigadier al-Hamad said the number of people deported daily averages between 200 and 250 foreigners of various nationalities. He stressed that the deportation campaigns are confined to those people who entered this Arabian Gulf state illegally or have been living here for a short period without having obtained a residence permit.

## PDRY

### PARTY OFFICIAL RECEIVES SOVIET DEPUTY FOREIGN TRADE MINISTER

LD161554 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 16 Jan 80 LD/EA

[Text] Brother ' Abd al-'Aziz 'Abd al-Wali, member of the Yemeni Socialist Party Political Bureau and Central Committee secretary, received in his office this morning a Soviet trade delegation led by Comrade Zorin, deputy minister of foreign trade. The two sides discussed ways of expanding and deepening trade relations between the two countries and the possibility of signing a cooperation agreement for the coming 5 years. The meeting was attended by Comrade (Ivanov), the Soviet trade representative.

### LEBANESE CP SECRETARY GENERAL ARRIVES 13 Jan

LD132214 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 13 Jan 80 LD/EA

[Text] Brother 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, member of the Political Bureau, deputy chairman of the Presidium of the Supreme People's Council and chairman of the Council of Ministers, has affirmed our country's principled support for the Lebanese nationalist movement's struggle against the plots aimed at partitioning Lebanon and fragmenting its territory. He also affirmed our country's support for the legitimate struggle of the Palestinian resistance. This affirmation came this afternoon when the brother chairman of the Council of Ministers met the visiting Lebanese Communist Party delegation led by George Hawi, secretary general of the Lebanese Communist Party Central Committee.

The brother premier and the visiting delegation discussed the comradely relations be[illegible]n the Yemeni Socialist Party (YSP) and the Lebanese Communist Party. They also reviewed recent developments in the region and the situation in Southern Lebanon.

The Lebanese Communist Party delegation arrived in Aden this morning on a visit to the PDRY to last several days. The visit comes at the invitation of the YSP Central Committee. It was met on arrival at Aden international airport by brother Muhammad Salih Muti, member of the Political Bureau and secretary of the YSP Central Committee; brother Sulayman Nasir Muhammad, candidate member of the Central Committee; and a number of party and state officials.

## QATAR

### DELEGATION WILL ATTEND ISLAMIC CONFERENCE IN PAKISTAN

NC141425 Doha Qna in Arabic 1404 GMT 14 Jan 80 NC

[Text] Doha, 14 January--Qatar has decided to attend the emergency conference of Islamic states foreign ministers due to be held in Pakistan on 26 January.

The Qatari delegation to these meetings will be led by Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Shaykh Ahmad ibn Sayf Al Thani.

PDRY FOREIGN MINISTRY OFFICIAL ARRIVES 14 JAN

NC141627 Doha QNA in Arabic 1415 GMT 14 Jan 80 NC

[Text] Doha, 14 January--PDRY Foreign Ministry Under Secretary 'Abduh 'Abd ar-Rahman arrived in Doha this afternoon from Abu Dhabi on a brief visit to Qatar as part of his current tour in the area.

'Abduh 'Abd ar-Rahman said on arrival that he was carrying a message to His Highness Shaykh Khalifah ibn Hamad Al Thani, the amir of Qatar, from his brother 'Abd al-Fattah Isma'il, chairman of the Supreme People's Council Presidium in Democratic Yemen, connected with the latest developments in the Arab region in general and the Gulf area in particular as well as bilateral relations.

In a statement to QNA, he said he was also carrying a message to Shaykh Ahmad ibn Sayf Al Thani, Qatari minister of state for foreign affairs, from Yemeni Foreign Minister Salim Salih Muhammad.

Leaves for Bahrain

NC151420 Doha QNA in Arabic 1355 GMT 15 Jan 80 NC

[Text] Doha, 15 January--PDRY Foreign Ministry Under Secretary 'Abduh 'Abd ar-Rahman left Doha this afternoon for Bahrain after a 1-day visit to the state of Qatar. During the visit 'Abd ar-Rahman delivered a message to Shaykh Khalifah ibn Hamad Al Thani from 'Abd al-Fattah Isma'il, chairman of the Supreme People's Council Presidium in Democratic Yemen on developments in the Arab area, the situation in the Gulf area and bilateral relations.

The PDRY official arrived in Doha yesterday as part of a tour of the area's countries.

UN DELEGATE DISCUSSES AFGHANISTAN EVENTS, OTHER ISSUES

NC160800 Manama GULF NEWS AGENCY in Arabic 0535 GMT 16 Jan 80 NC

[Text] New York, 16 January--Jasim Jamal, Qatar's permanent delegate to the United Nations, has expressed the Qatari Government's deep satisfaction with the results of the UN General Assembly debate on the Soviet intervention in Afghanistan. He said: "These results are splendid proof that the international community categorically rejects any form of foreign interference in the domestic affairs of any state regardless of what state it is and where the interference comes from."

In an interview with the correspondent of the GULF NEWS AGENCY in New York, the Qatari delegate said: What calls for particular satisfaction is the fact that many states, including some that are friends of the Soviet Union, have adhered to the principle of noninterference and have responded positively by voting for the draft resolution, which was adopted by the overwhelming majority of the UN General Assembly's members, clearly condemning the Soviet Union for its blatant aggression against Afghanistan.

The Qatari delegate added: Undoubtedly the fact that many members of the UN General Assembly voted for the draft resolution condemning the Soviet Union will have a far-reaching psychological and diplomatic impact on the Soviet Union.

The Qatari delegate went on: The Soviet aggression against Afghanistan has undoubtedly come as a shock to some small states which were under the mistaken impression that the Soviet Union was a warm friend of the nonalined states. What happened in Afghanistan is a lesson to these states which will encourage them to reconsider their attitude toward the Soviet Union.

Jamal expressed his belief that the opposition of world public opinion to the Soviet Union represented in the results of the UN General Assembly's special session on Afghanistan will lead the Soviet Union to draw up a new strategy in order to confront developments and to introduce some changes in its stance on other international issues.

Asked what the Arab Gulf states intend to do to confront the grave challenges in the area which are crystallized in the Soviet aggression against Afghanistan, the Qatari delegate said: What happened in Afghanistan has undoubtedly come as a shock to all states in the area. I believe that the recent Soviet moves in Afghanistan are actually a part of a new strategy aimed at expanding the Soviet penetration of the Arab region, particularly the Gulf area, which is rich in natural resources. Recent special reports have made it clear to us that the Soviet Union will be in dire need of energy by the early eighties. This will have a significant effect on the Soviet Union's attitude toward the states in the area.

The Qatari delegate expressed his strong belief that the Soviet Union will resort to all possible means to intensify and strengthen its military presence in Afghanistan in order to stay there permanently.

The Qatari delegate emphasized that the Soviet Union's invasion of Afghanistan will turn this Muslim and nonalined state into an area of political turmoil which will not calm down soon, particularly after the Soviet Union consolidated its foothold in the area.

Jamal went on: If we review the political history of Afghanistan, it becomes clear that this country has been subjected to many attempts aimed at dominating it. These attempts were not always successful.

The Qatari delegate predicted that the Soviet Union's insistence on consolidating its foothold in Afghanistan will create popular counter reactions in the form of increasing guerrilla warfare, particularly since the topography of the country contributed to the initiation and growth of various forms of popular resistance.

Asked whether the Gulf states will adopt joint defense arrangements with any external quarters to confront the grave Soviet challenges to the security of the area, Jamal said: the Gulf states have rejected and continue to reject any foreign military presence on their territory. The Gulf states' rejection of any proposed military presence stems from their belief that such a presence would contribute to the creation of confusion and increase the tension in the area.

The Qatari delegate added that his country's government continues to believe in the principle that the Gulf states should jointly safeguard the area's security without any foreign interference in the domestic affairs of the Gulf states. He also said: We believe that we can protect our interests and defend our independence alone.

The Qatari delegate called for the intensification of the contacts and consultations aimed at increasing rapproachment among the states in the region. He expressed deep confident that the officials in the Gulf area are aware of these grave international events and that contacts are continuing among the leaders of the Gulf states to confront all developments and probabilities.

Questioned about Iranian-Qatari relations and recent developments in Iran, the Qatari delegate said: The Qatari Government considers the recent developments as internal affairs concerning the Iranian people alone. We harbor all love and admiration for the Iranian people, who must choose their own social and economic systems and leaders without any foreign interference. He added that the relations between Qatar and Iran are good and are based on the ties of Islam and mutual respect.

Concerning the exchange of ambassadors between Egypt and the Zionist entity on 26 January, the Qatari delegate said: The exchange of ambassadors between Egypt and Israel is one of the worst results of the ill-omened Camp David agreements. The Qatari Government had strongly condemned these agreements because of its belief that they are no more than bilateral agreements which have clearly disregarded the essence of the Arab-Israeli conflict--the Palestinian question. They have also disregarded holy Jerusalem which Israel is still occupying.

Jamal added: The exchange of ambassadors is a very grave matter in the Arab-Israeli conflict. It manifests Egypt's total departure from the Arab front. Undoubtedly, Egypt's readiness to collude with Israel has reached a stage which is encouraging Israel to increase the number of the Israeli settlements on the occupied territory in disregard of the rights of the Palestinian people. Egypt's collusion and its submission to Israel is the main factor which encouraged Israel to continue to belittle and disregard the Arab rights without facing any significant deterrents.

Asked what the Arab nation should do after the diplomatic representation between Egypt and Israel becomes a fact, the Qatari delegate said: The Arab nation is required more than at any time before to discard its differences and stand united in the face of this blatant Zionist challenge and avert this imminent danger against the Arab nation and its dignity and future.

The Qatari delegate said that one of the regrettable reasons which encourage the states that are friendly to Israel to continue their support for the Zionist entity is the lack of a firm united Arab stand and also the lack of Arab pressure on states which can directly influence Israel. He said: What enabled Israel to reach this level is the nonexistence of a solid unified Arab command. He added: It behooves the Arab officials to draw up a new joint Arab strategy to confront the new dangerous phase which crystallized in the exchange of ambassadors between Egypt and the Zionist entity.

## SAUDI ARABIA

### YAR PRIME MINISTER MAKES STATEMENT TO PRESS IN RIYADH

JN161652 Ban'a' Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 16 Jan 80 JN

[Text] Prime Minister 'Abd al-'Aziz 'Abd al-Ghani has made a statement to the press in Riyadh on the results of the Saudi-YAR talks.

In the statement, Prime Minister 'Abd al-'Aziz 'Abd al-Ghani expressed his and the accompanying delegations thanks for the great hospitality accorded them during their visit. The prime minister said: I and the delegation accompanying me were pleased with our visit to fraternal Saudi Arabia, with this visit's fruitful, constructive results and with our Saudi brothers great response with regard to promoting, expanding and developing bilateral cooperation.

The prime minister added: I was also happy to meet with His Majesty King Khalid ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz and to convey to him a written message from his brother 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, president of the republic and commander in chief of the armed forces.

The two leaders desire to strengthen bilateral relations and bolster their pan-Arab role was the positive foundation for expanding cooperation between the two fraternal states to serve their common interests, as well as the Islamic and Arab nation's interests, and contributed to the success of the talks I held with my friends, particularly His Highness Crown Prince and Deputy Prime Minister Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz Al Sa'ud; His Highness Second Deputy Prime Minister Prince 'Abdallah ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz al Sa'ud; His Highness Minister of Defense and Aviation and Inspector General Prince Sultan ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz Al Sa'ud; and all those who contributed to widening the scope of cooperation, which has been developing and expanding throughout the past few years and is based on understanding and fraternity.

The prime minister added: I am confident that this visit and the complete understanding which it achieved, will lead us toward our aims and aspirations on the road to the future particularly with regard to the current Arab and international situation, which behooves the two countries to increase cooperation and coordination in the interest of the two countries in the various national, Arab and Islamic fields and enhance potentials in order to firmly confront the colonialist and Zionist plots, which are being concocted in order to achieve their expansionist ambitions through exploiting some peripheral differences to harm Arab solidarity. We must bolster Arab solidarity to make it more effective and capable of confronting challenges.

The prime minister stressed the need for standing in the same trench in order to defend our urgent issues particularly the Arab Palestinian people's issue, and to support the Palestinians until their territory is liberated and they establish their independent state on the soil of their usurped homeland. The prime minister pointed out that these are the principles from which the YAR and Saudi Arabia are proceeding.

In conclusion, the prime minister said: Our visit to the city of Al-Kharj, its installations and projects has left its good impressions on us, for we saw the progress achieved by Saudi Arabia under His Majesty King Khalid ibn 'Abd al'Aziz.

Departs 16 Jan

LD161632 Riyadh SNA in Arabic 1400 GMT 16 Jan 80 LD

[Text] Riyadh--'Abd al-'Aziz 'Abd al-Ghani, prime minister of the Yemen Arab Republic, and the delegation accompanying him left Riyadh this evening following a 5-day visit to the kingdom. His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdallah ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, second deputy prime minister and commander of the National Guard, headed those who saw them off.

KUNA: AFGHANISTAN EVENTS PROMPT RETHINK OF SAUDI POLICY CHANGE

LD161016 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 0700 GMT 16 Jan 80 LD

[Text] Kuwait--A Kuwaiti paper today reports that the Soviet intervention in Afghanistan prompted the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia to alter a "fundamental" change it was thinking of introducing in its general anti-Soviet policy.

AL-ANBA, quotes a high-level Arab source who wished to remain unidentified, as having said that "the initial measure" in the expected alteration was to hold talks on the possibility of establishing diplomatic relations with the Soviet Union. Saudi Arabia, which strongly attacked the Soviet intervention, has no diplomatic relations with Moscow, and more than once has denied repeated reports about the possibility of establishing such relations.

The paper, quoting the same source, added that if the Soviet Union went back on its present posture, "it will help to prompt the kingdom to reconsider its present relations with the Soviet Union."

COMMENTARY ON UNGA DEBATE ON SOVIET AGGRESSION IN AFGHANISTAN

LD142308 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 14 Jan 80 LD

[Husayn al-'Askari commentary]

[Excerpts] The UN General Assembly today resumed its emergency session on Soviet aggression against Afghanistan. The session will further study the draft resolution adopted by 16 states calling for the immediate withdrawal of Soviet forces from Afghanistan.

We are not attempting to belittle the importance of the UN General Assembly resolutions, but we are saying that the adoption of a resolution condemning the Soviet military invasion of Afghanistan does not constitute an effective measure on the practical level, even though it may affirm the UN's categorical rejection of the treacherous Soviet aggression against an independent country where its people's crime was their rejection of communism.

The UNGA resolution will gain real impetus if every state takes a serious stand on the call for boycotting the Soviet Union. With the Soviets having turned the entire world into enemies, this should be done. In this respect it seems the most effective sanction is the economic boycott, especially with regard to grain exports from the Western states to Russia. Those grain exports have helped offset the faults of agriculture and bad harvests in the Soviet Union. On the other hand, according to the London OBSERVER Western technical aid has given the Soviets the chance to reinforce its military capabilities.

That was the miscalculated mistake made by the West during the period of accord between the two superpowers. It was exploited by the Soviet Union without it giving anything in return. Observers consider it one of the factors which encouraged Moscow to behave without ethics in international dealings. On the other hand, the process of making the Soviet Union adhere to the use of ethics in normal international relations constitutes difficulties that cannot be underestimated.

UAE

FRG MINISTER OF ECONOMICS ARRIVES 11 JAN

JN111445 Manama GULF NEWS AGENCY in Arabic 1415 GMT 11 Jan 80 JN

[Excerpt] Abu Dhabi, 11 January--FRG Minister of Economics Dr Otto Graf Lambsdorff arrived here today from Kuwait on a 1-day visit to the UAE. While in Abu Dhabi, Dr Lambsdorff will meet with UAE Prime Minister Shaykh Rashid ibn Sa'id al-Maktum and with his UAE counterpart, Shaykh Sultan ibn Ahmad al-Mu'alla.

Speaking to an EMIRATES NEWS AGENCY correspondent Dr Lambsdorff said his talks with UAE officials will concentrate primarily on finding methods of bolstering joint economic cooperation. He added that his talks will also deal with current political developments in the area and with their impact on the world's economy.

Begins Economic Talks

JN121035 Manama GULF NEWS AGENCY in Arabic 1020 GMT 12 Jan 80 JN

[Excerpt] Abu Dhabi, 12 January--Official talks between the UAE and the FRG began here this morning. The UAE delegation was headed by Economy and Trade Minister Sultan ibn Ahmad al-Mu'alla and the FRG delegation by Minister of Economics Dr Otto Lambsdorff.

The talks focused on bilateral relations, particularly economy and trade, and on the draft agreement the two parties intend to sign to encourage and protect investments.

Meets Vice President

JN121452 Abu Dhabi EMIRATES NEWS AGENCY in Arabic 1330 GMT 12 Jan 80 JN

[Excerpt] Dubayy, 12 January--His Highness Shaykh Rashid ibn Sa'id al-Maktum, vice president and prime minister, received today FRG Minister of Economics Dr Otto Lambsdorff and the delegation accompanying him.

The FRG minister told the EMIRATES NEWS AGENCY that he and His Highness Shaykh Rashid exchanged views on matters of mutual concern. Economic and political relations, the current situation in Iran and Afghanistan and the possible impact of these situations on the Gulf region were also discussed, he added.

Meets Oil Minister

JN122024 Manama GULF NEWS AGENCY in Arabic 1925 GMT 12 Jan 80 JN

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 12 January--Dr Mani' Sa'id al-'Utaybah, UAE petroleum and natural resources minister, has affirmed that OPEC will continue playing a fundamental role in the world economy.

Following his meeting here this evening with FRG Minister of Economics Dr Otto Lambsdorff, Dr al-'Utaybah said he had explained to the visiting minister the UAE's policy in the field of energy and its eagerness to continue playing a capable and balanced role in this field and to keep its decisions well-balanced and reasonable concerning prices and production.

He explained that the two sides agreed on the need for more direct relations between the two countries in the future in the fields of petroleum, gas and petroleum industries and the consolidation of their relations in these fields. He also pointed out that the two sides agreed to exchange visits to Abu Dhabi and Bonn by two technical delegations to discuss the scope of cooperation between the two countries in the field of energy and alternate sources of energy.

The UAE minister of petroleum and natural resources announced that he had accepted the FRG's minister's invitation to visit the FRG within the next few months.

Leaves for Home

JN122101 Manama GULF NEWS AGENCY in Arabic 2040 GMT 12 Jan 80 JN

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 12 January--FRG Minister of Economics Dr Otto Graf Lambsdorff concluded his 1-day official visit to the UAE and left Abu Dhabi for home tonight, thus ending a tour of the region which also covered Saudi Arabia and Kuwait.

Prior to his departure, Dr Lambsdorff said he had satisfactory talks with senior UAE officials on several important economic topics. He added that his visit was a good opportunity to exchange viewpoints on the economic relations between the two countries and ways of bolstering them.

YAR

PRIME MINISTER RETURNS FROM SAUDI ARABIA

JN161829 San'a' Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 16 Jan 80 JN

[Excerpts] Prime Minister 'Abd al-'Aziz 'Abd al-Ghani and the delegation accompanying him returned to San'a' tonight following their official visit to Saudi Arabia. Brother 'Abd al-'Aziz 'Abd al-Ghani and the delegation accompanying him left Riyadh international airport this afternoon, where they were accorded the customary departure ceremony. His Highness Prince 'Abdallah ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz Al Sa'ud, second deputy prime minister and head of the National Guard, led those who saw the prime minister off. Several princes and top-ranking officials were also present at the sendoff.

The prime minister sent a cable to His Majesty King Khalid ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz Al Sa'ud in which he expressed his thanks for the great reception and hospitality accorded him and the delegation accompanying him during their visit to Saudi Arabia. The prime minister also sent similar cables to His Highness Crown Prince Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz Al Sa'ud, deputy prime minister, and Prince 'Abdallah ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz Al Sa'ud, second deputy prime minister and head of the National Guard.

COMMENTARY NOTES SIGNIFICANCE OF PREMIER'S RIYADH STATEMENT

JN162104 San'a' Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 16 Jan 80 JN

[Unattributed commentary]

[Excerpt] We are living every action by the responsible political leadership under Col 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, leader president of the republic and commander in chief of the armed forces, and the government, which interprets the Yemeni aims and aspirations through sensing the reality of the citizen in every part of Yemen and attempting to secure the individual's well-being.

Since this is the nature of our internal policy, then our foreign policy sincerely reflects our internal policy. Prime Minister 'Abd al-'Aziz 'Abd al-Ghani affirmed this in his clear and candid statement to the press in Riyadh, in which he stated that bolstering the sincere and fraternal relations between us and fraternal Saudi Arabia proceeds from the premises of fraternity and common interests, which link the two fraternal states and their peoples.

Thus, the prime minister affirmed the clarity of the relations linking brothers, for there is neither distance nor differences between them. Rather, good relations link the two states, which make exchanges regarding common interests, react to events and maintain ties between brothers and between the Saudi and YAR Governments, ties which can never be severed.

Thus, the clarity of our vision today of our foreign relations with brothers and friends proceeds from such premises as the reality of [words indistinct] to the Yemeni reality, society and revolution. This is what we believe in and attempt to reflect in our work.

PRESIDENT SALIH RECEIVES DPRK DELEGATION

JN161415 San'a' Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 12 Jan 80 JN

[Text] Brother Col 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, president of the republic and commander in chief of the armed forces, at 1030 today received in his office at the general command the DPRK delegation currently visiting the YAR which is headed by Chong Chun-ki, candidate member of the DPRK Korean Workers Party Political Committee and vice premier. The DPRK official conveyed a written message to the brother president from DPRK President Kim Il-song. The message deals with bilateral relations and with ways of developing these relations. The discussion during the meeting also dealt with issues of mutual concern.

A SABA' correspondent has learned that Chong Chun-ki conveyed an official invitation from President Kim Il-song to brother President Col 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih to visit the DPRK. The brother president accepted the invitation and the date of the visit will be fixed later.

The meeting was attended by Nujahid Abu Shawarib, deputy prime minister for domestic affairs, Ahmad Haydar, Foreign Ministry under secretary and the DPRK charge d'affaires in San'a'.

BRIEFS

KUWAIT LOAN TO PDRY--Kuwait, 7 January--Kuwait today signed an agreement with the PDRY under which it grants the PDRY a loan of 4 million Kuwaiti dinars, equivalent to $145 million. The loan, provided by the Kuwaiti Fund for Arab Economic Development, will help finance the new airport project to be constructed at Ar-Rayyan area, in the Fifth Province. The loan carries an interest of 1 percent and will be repaid over a period of 16 years, after a 4-year grace. The agreement was signed by Kuwaiti Finance Minister 'Abd ar-Rahman al-'Atiqi, in his capacity as chairman of the board of directors of the fund, and the PDRY Planning Minister 'Abd al-Qadir ba Jamal. [Text] [Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 0846 GMT 7 Jan 80 LD]

DELEGATION REJECTS NEW ISRAELI IDEAS ON AUTONOMY

NC161137 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1100 GMT 16 Jan 80 NC

[Text] Cairo, 16 January--The delegation of the Arab Republic of Egypt to the meetings of the autonomy subcommittees today totally rejected the ideas the Israeli delegation submitted to the committees meeting this morning.

Ambassador 'Izzat 'Abd al-Latif, the official spokesman of the Egyptian delegation and leader of the Egyptian side to the powers committee, told MENA that the Egyptian delegation rejected the Israeli ideas which were presented at today's session because they do not conform to the concept of the Camp David accords, to which Egypt adheres. This concept says that the autonomy for the West Bank and Gaza Sector must be a comprehensive autonomy having full powers and jurisdictions in the legislative, judicial and executive spheres.

The ambassador added that the Israeli ideas do not actually go beyond the organizational aspects of the administrative organs which will assume the executive side within the autonomy framework. They are ideas based on old plans which have been rejected. They date back to the era before the peace agreements, and to consider them now would be tantamount to retreating and not moving the march of peace forward.

Ambassador 'Izzat 'Abd al-Latif went on to say that at tomorrow's session, which will be held at 1000, the Egyptian delegation will submit its answer to the Israeli ideas and explain its firm stand on all issues connected with autonomy for the West Bank and Gaza.

MENA has learned that the Israeli ideas are nothing other than the old plan of Menahem Begin.

The committees held a 2-hour meeting this morning during which the Israeli delegation presented the ideas it brought, which were rejected by the Egyptian delegation.

Official Statement

NC161432 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1420 GMT 16 Jan 80 NC

[Text] Cairo, 16 January--Egypt has officially announced its rejection of the proposals submitted by the Israeli delegation to the autonomy negotiations at today's meeting. An official spokesman said that the proposals were rejected after urgent consultations with Prime Minister Dr Mustafa Khalil and Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Dr Butrus Ghali.

The following is the statement issued by the official spokesman of the Foreign Ministry:

During today's meetings of the two autonomy subcommittees currently in session at Mena House in Al-Jizah, the Israeli delegation submitted a proposal containing a draft model of autonomy in the West Bank and the Gaza Sector. A study of the Israeli proposal reveals the following:

1. It is based on an erroneous concept of autonomy because it provides for a partial transfer of power to the Palestinian authority, whereas the Camp David framework stipulates that all powers and jurisdictions of the Israeli military authority and civilian administration should be transferred to the Palestinian authority which replaces them.

2. The Israeli proposal resorts to the same logic applied before peace, and as such it violates the Camp David agreement, the peace treaty and the complementary agreement relating to the establishment of autonomy in the West Bank and the Gaza Sector.

3. The Israeli proposal is thus considered a step backward and incompatible with the need to adhere to the letter and spirit of the provisions of the Camp David agreement and the complementary agreements on the West Bank and the Gaza Sector.

The Egyptian delegation held urgent consultations with Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Dr Mustafa Khalil and Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Dr Butrus Butrus Ghali and it was decided to reject the Israeli proposal categorically.

The Egyptian delegation intends to submit a counterproposal in harmony with the Egyptian position and the letter and spirit of Camp David and the complementary agreement on autonomy for the West Bank and the Gaza Sector.

Elections Subcommittee Report

NC161220 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1132 GMT 16 Jan 80 NC

[Text] Cairo, 16 January--The subcommittee emanating from the Elections Committee concerned with the Autonomy for Palestinians in the West Bank and Gaza Strip has completed the preparation of the report it was assigned to compile. The report pinpoints the points of disagreement between the Egyptian and Israeli delegations on the holding of the elections, the constituencies and the supervision of these elections.

The head of the Egyptian delegation on the committee, Ambassador Mamduh 'Abd ar-Razzaq, has stated that the report will be discussed at a session to be held at 0900 tomorrow. The heads of the delegations to the committee held a meeting this morning to agree on the agenda and the modus operandi.

ISRAELI ENERGY MINISTRY DELEGATION ARRIVES IN CAIRO

NC162128 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2020 GMT 16 Jan 80 NC

[Text] Cairo, 16 January--A delegation from the Israeli Energy Ministry arrived in Cairo this evening headed by David Hago'el, the director general at the ministry.

The delegation will join the Israeli energy minister, Yitzhaq Moda'i, who is currently in Cairo to hold discussions with Egyptian Petroleum Minister 'Izz ad-Din Hilal.

GHALI ADDRESSES PEOPLE'S ASSEMBLY JOINT COMMITTEE

NC161946 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1905 GMT 16 Jan 80 NC

[Text] Cairo, 16 January--The joint committee formed by the People's Assembly from the Foreign Relations, Arab and National Security Committees met tonight under the chairmanship of Foreign Relations Committee Chairman Dr Fu'ad Muhyi ad-Din to study the situation in the Middle East and the Soviet aggression against Afghanistan.

Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Dr Butrus Ghali emphasized before the committee that Egypt insists on working within the framework of the United Nations in response to the events in Afghanistan, because that is the legitimate organization and because Egypt wants to insure that the African bloc and the nonalined countries will not interpret Egypt's stand as an attempt to bolster its position against the Arab reply to the peace negotiations. Dr Ghali affirmed that the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan contradicts international legitimacy and international law.

Ghali said he expects an Israeli move to postpone the discussion of the Palestinian question at the United Nations in order to make way for the discussion of the Soviet interference in Afghanistan.

Ghali said that Egyptian diplomacy gives great attention to the autonomy negotiations with the Israeli side and seeks to participate in all international forums within the framework of its commitments to the policy of nonalinement and bolstering its relations with the African bloc.

Ghali affirmed that relations between Egypt and Sudan are firm and that all that has been said about tension in relations between the two fraternal countries is unfounded. He said that the rejectionist states are attempting to disturb these relations and to expand the secondary differences.

As for reports about bringing the Nile waters to Jerusalem, Dr Ghali affirmed that Egypt continues to adhere to the international treaties it has signed on the Nile waters and that the Egyptian Government does not intend to take any such action.

In connection with the facilities which Egypt will grant to the United States, Dr Ghali affirmed that the facilities, which are temporary, are to be used to help any Arab state that is attacked, if the Arab states request this help.

The joint committee members requested that the Palestinian autonomy negotiations be speedily completed and that efforts be exerted to confront the plan of Soviet communists to extend their influence in the Arab and African homeland and the Islamic states.

KUWAIT AL-WATAN: EGYPT GIVES U.S. TWO MILITARY AIR BASES

LD161018 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 0725 GMT 16 Jan 80 LD

[Text] Kuwait--A Kuwaiti paper today stated that "it is almost certain" that Egypt has handed over two military air bases on its territory to the United States.

AL-WATAN, in a report from Cairo, quotes sources it describes as informed as having stated "that Qina Airport, in Upper Egypt, in particular, has been handed over to the American Air Force along with another airport west of Cairo." The paper does not specify when the two airports were handed over, but states that crews of American operators with their intricate equipment, including electronic radar, are at Qina Airport, "where they are carrying out their new tasks." It adds "that American aircraft have begun flights from Qina base, which faces the Red Sea, and that the flights of these aircraft are basically aimed at the Arab Gulf and some other countries in the Middle East region."

Egypt recently denied that it has offered the United States any military bases on its territory and said the matter is limited to offering military "facilities."

AS-SADAT RETURNS TO CAIRO FROM STAY IN ASWAN

NC161302 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1248 GMT 16 Jan 80 NC

[Text] Cairo, 16 January--President Muhammad Anwar as-Sadat returned to Cairo from Aswan at 1412 today on board a special plane after the conclusion of his 19-day visit to Aswan Governorate.

During his stay in Aswan, the president met with Israeli Prime Minister Menahem Begin and inspected food project in the governorate.

The president was received at the airport by Prime Minister Mustafa Khalil, Deputy Prime Minister and NDP Secretary General Fikri Makram 'Ubayd, Defense Minister Gen Kamal Hasan 'Ali and other high-ranking state officials.

AL-AKHBAR PROPOSES MUSLIM MOVES IN REACTION TO AFGHANISTAN

LD141555 Cairo AL-AKHBAR in Arabic 9 Jan 80 p 5 LD

[Dr Wahid Ra'fat article: "What Now, After the Soviet Invasion of Afghanistan?]

[Excerpts] While wrathful masses in many Muslim countries attacked U.S. Embassies, consulates and establishments in their countries at the beginning of the current Hegira year because of a false rumor fabricated by Khomeyni's radio on alleged participation by the U.S. and Israeli intelligence in the attack on the Holy Mosque in Mecca, these masses gave a lukewarm reception to the news of the Soviet invasion of fraternal Afghanistan. Except for some limited local incidents, most of the Islamic states contented themselves with issuing rhetorical protests. At least two of these states, Ba'thist Syria and South Yemen, even supported the Soviet invasion. Although South Yemen's attitude can be explained by the fact that it is becoming Moscow's lackey and a den for Soviet and communist plots against the Arabian Peninsula and the entire Arab world, Syria's attitude is regrettable and reveals the real mettle of its existing rule. Perhaps this rule expects Moscow to give it direct military aid when the hour of salvation strikes for the rebellious Syrian masses to rid themselves of that rule.

Egypt is perhaps the only Muslim state which has clearly expressed its anger and denunciation of the Soviet aggression against Afghanistan. It did not content itself with the statements and protests its government, People's Assembly and Islamic organizations issued. The government warned the Soviet ambassador of the consequences of the Soviet invasion of an Islamic country and immediately began contacting the nonalined and other friendly states to study what steps to take to deal with the new situation in Afghanistan.

In fact, verbal protests are not enough any longer. The adoption of practical measures is inevitable--measures that will make the Soviet leadership feel that things have reached the limit, that their continued occupation of Afghanistan will definitely jeopardize the Soviet Union's interests in the Muslim states, and that the Soviets must withdraw from Afghanistan without delay in order to preserve these interests and their good relations with the Muslim world. These measures vary. Some are local; others are collective--Islamic and international.

Local measures require--as a minimum--each Islamic state to mobilize its public opinion against the Soviet occupation of Afghanistan. The men of religion at their different posts and positions in society and the local information media in these countries can play an important and effective role in this connection by denouncing the Soviet occupation of a Muslim country and defending the Muslim Afghan people's right to a free life and independence. Let Afghanistan be another Palestine. Losing it is less important, in my opinion, than losing Arab Palestine.

In order to bear fruit, these efforts must continue as long as the Soviet occupation of the fraternal Afghan people continues.

As for collective Islamic action, this can include the severence of diplomatic relations between the Islamic states and the Soviet Union. If this is not possible for lack of unaminity or other reasons, the least the Islamic states can do is to recall their ambassadors from Moscow even if for a specific period as an expression of their indignation, as some Western States have done under the pretext of consulting with their ambassadors to the Soviet Union on the recent events.

Reducing the size of diplomatic exchange between the Islamic capitals and Moscow is also possible. This is what Cairo has actually decided to do.

There are other measures such as expelling Soviet nationals from the Islamic states and terminating their residence there. The Muslim states must also refrain absolutely from recognizing the new regime the Soviets have installed in Kabul for as long as it continues to exist. We believe that only two states will deviate from this course: the two renegade states of South Yemen and Ba'thist Syria, which is marching on the path of subservience to Moscow.

It is also natural to call for an Isalmic conference at summit level to discuss the situation that has arisen in Afghanistan. This is what the Egyptian leadership is planning to do. Such a conference was held in Rabat in September 1969 to deliberate on the attack on the Al-Aqsa Mosque in August that year. Undoubtedly, depriving a Muslim people of their freedom and independence and attempts to impose atheism on them is just as serious in Muslims' eyes as the attack on the Al-Aqsa Mosque.

A final word I would like to address to the communist parties and the communist in our Arab world: For many long years, you tried to make the people believe that only the Soviet Union--your ideal--and it alone, to the exclusion of all other world states, is honest, has no expansionist ambitions, is the true friend of the Third World states and is the protector of the peoples struggling for liberation and independence against Western colonialism and imperialism.

The mask has now been stripped away from your ideal to reveal its real ferocious face. Even if there had been room for hesitation in this regard prior to the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan, such doubts have now been completely eliminated following this blatant, disgraceful invasion.

Return to your senses, or at least stop deceiving our peoples about that major state which, through deception, false slogans, premeditated coups and finally through flagrant direct invasion, seeks to control the Third World states preparatory to imposing its domination over the East and West and the whole world. It is neo-Nazism in a communist cloak. Nazism was defeated after it had terrorized the world. God willing, Soviet imperialism will be defeated.

COMMENTARY REFUTES IRANIAN CLAIMS OF RELIGIOUS PERSECUTION

JN162057 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1600 GMT 16 Jan 80 JN

[Unattributed commentary]

[Excerpts] It is not strange for the Tehran rulers to level accusations against and foment troubles for the area's peoples and states. This process has become the dominating feature of those rulers who are drowned in and confused by the deteriorating domestic situation.

This domestic situation is best seen in the conflict among the various centers of power, each of which claims the right to speak on behalf of Iran. This process has become the basic feature of the new Iranina rulers, who have used this process as an imperative formula to distract the attention of the Iranian people from the chronic problems engulfing their country since Khomeyni and his clique assumed power.

The new U.S. allies in Iran could not but carry out the plan entrusted to them in accordance with the specific and planned timetable. This explains the causes of the Iranian rulers' hostility against Iraq, despite Iraq's support for some of these rulers, who were among the opposition during the shah's era. Iraq was the sole shelter in which those rulers, who are hiding behind the cloak of religion, took refuge. This is also despite the fact that Iraq--a nieghboring country--has expressed its readiness to open a new page in Iraqi-Iranian relations based on the principles of neighborliness, history and religion. Iraq has also blessed the Iranian Revolution with words and deeds.

Despite Iraq's positive stand on the new Iranian rulers, it was discovered later that the heads of the regime and the Iranian Revolution are pursuing different directions. It has also become clear from the practices carried out by Khomeyni and his dwarfs that those who are ruling Iran [words indistinct] the new strategy pursued by world imperialism in the eastern area of Suez. This strategy is based on changing the faces in some pro-imperialist regimes with new faces, for the old faces are not in harmony with the new strategy. Khomeyni was the new face that replaced the shah when the latter became undesirable on the domestic and foreign levels.

Despite the fact that Iraq is well aware of these false faces, Iraq has followed the policy of deep breathing and self-restraint to give these rulers the opportunity to reconsider their stands and give up stupid policies. Iraq also tried to disregard their accusations against Iraq and the other Arab Gulf states. These accusations represented their expansionist trends in the Gulf. The fact has, however, made itself known, and it has become clear that these rulers are proceeding with their oppression and despotism, flouting all considerations that could make Iranian-Arab relations in general and Iraqi-Iranian relations in particular strong for the benefit of the area and its peoples.

These rulers have reached a degree of stupidity, fabricating and disseminating baseless news about Iraq. This is only justified by the role entrusted to them by their masters, a role to export disturbances and sedition to the neighboring countries and peoples. These rulers went even further, saying that the men of religion in Iraq are oppressed and pursued at a time when these rulers are reading and hearing via the various information media that the men of religion in Iraq are enjoying a prominent position.

We do not want to reply to such propaganda. But we want to ask Khomeyni and his clique the following question: When they were in Iraq, did they not see the prominent role played by the men of religion in Iraq? And how was Khomeyni treated when he was in Iraq, although he is not an Iraqi nor an Arab? Did they themselves not see how the holy places are safe in Iraq?

The new Iranian rulers must devote their attention to remedying their problems and those of the Iranian peoples, who are dismembered by the abnormal situation under Khomeyni. These rulers must defuse the racist and sectarian sedition and end the domestic conflict. They must give up their policies, which are based on subjugating all the Iranian peoples and minorities to the Persian will and are contrary to the basic values of the Islamic religion, according to which everyone is equal despite their nationalities.

These rulers, who are headed by Khomeyni, should not be worried about the religion and its men in Iraq because the Arabs and Islam are one and Islam was introduced to all the world peoples, including the Persian people, by the Arabs.

These rulers must put an end to their arrogance and frivolity before it is too late and matters get out of hand.

OIL MINISTER RECEIVES LATIN AMERICAN ENERGY OFFICIAL

JN161516 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1410 GMT 16 Jan 80 JN

[Text] Baghdad, 16 January--Tayih 'Abd al-Karim, RCC member and oil minister, has reiterated that Iraq's oil policy is based on its principled stand, which advocates the setting up of the closest cooperation with the nonalined countries.

At his meeting today with (Gustav Rodriguez), secretary general of the Energy Organization of Latin America, 'Abd al-Karim said that Iraq is constantly advocating support for the developing countries belonging to the nonalined countries and OPEC. Iraq, he added, is also contributing to the financing of the developing countries' development projects via the OPEC fund and the Iraqi fund for foreign development.

'Abd al-Karim and (Rodriguez) discussed ways to consolidate the oil relations between Iraq and the member states of the Energy Organization of Latin America, the exchange of know-how and Iraq's participation in supporting the organization's development projects.

The secretary general of the Energy Organization of Latin America arrived in Baghdad this morning on a visit of several days to Iraq.

PALESTINIAN DELEGATION ARRIVES FOR JOINT COMMITTEE MEETING

JN150837 Amman AR-RA'Y in Arabic 15 Jan 80 p 1 JN

[Text] The PLO delegation to the Jordanian-Palestinian joint committee to bolster steadfastness in the occupied Arab land arrived in Amman yesterday. It is headed by Khalil al-Wazir and includes Talal Naji and Sami al-'Attari. The delegation was received in Ar-Ramtha [Jordanian-Syrian border point] by Jordanian Government Departmental officials.

The joint committee is expected to discuss the Zionist authorities' takeover of the Arab Jerusalem Electricity Company.

Holds Meeting

JN152020 Amman Domestic Television Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 15 Jan 80 JN

[Text] The Jordanian-Palestinian joint committee to bolster the steadfastness of our people in the occupied Arab territories began its meetings today.

The committee will discuss the ways to bolster the steadfastness of our people in the occupied territories and to confront the Israeli plots and practices directed against the Arab Palestinian people.

Meets With Sharaf

JN161737 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 16 Jan 80 JN

[Text] Prime Minister ash-Sharif 'Abd al-Hamid Sharaf received in his office this morning members of the Palestinian delegation to the joint Jordanian-Palestinian committee in charge of the affairs of the occupied land. The meeting was attended by Hasan Ibrahim, minister of state and head of the Executive Office for the Affairs of the Occupied Land, and Sulayman 'Arar, minister of state for cabinet affairs, both of whom are members of the Jordanian side.

The discussion during the meeting centered on the affairs of the occupied land, the joint committee's activities and its future program.

The prime minister reiterated the importance of providing every means of support to the sons of the occupied land and of calling on the fraternal Arab states to understand the problems engulfing the occupied land and to bolster steadfastness there. He stressed the need to achieve fraternal coordination and cooperation between the Jordanian Government and the PLO in this field based on the spirit of Arab brotherhood, joint action and the interest of the Palestinian future.

The joint committee will resume its work today to draw up the integrated working plan necessary to bolster the citizens in the occupied land during the next stage.

BUTRUS TO LEAD ISLAMIC CONFERENCE DELEGATION

NC161333 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1300 GMT 16 Jan 80 NC

[Excerpts] President Ilyas Sarkis chaired the cabinet's weekly session at noon in the presence of Prime Minister Salim al-Huss and the ministers. The meeting lasted until 1412. At the end of the meeting, the cabinet's acting secretary general, Shafiq an-Nayni, released the following official information: The Lebanese delegation to the Islamic conference scheduled for Islamabad will be headed by Minister of Foreign Affairs Fu'ad Butrus. The delegation will also include Ambassador 'Adil Isma'il as deputy chairman. Suhayl al-Furayji and Dhafir al-Hasan will be included among the delegation's members.

BEIRUT RADIO: 'TENSE' SITUATION IN CAPITAL EASES

NC161230 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 16 Jan 80 NC

[Text] The tense situation, which prevailed in the commercial area last night and early this morning, eased shortly before noon. Sniping had occurred in the commercial area, on the Riyad as-Sulh Square and in the vicinity of the government buildings. Traffic to the Jisr Fu'ad Shihab Bridge has been restored following yesterday's disruptions. Security patrols are on the bridge to insure a safe passage for the citizens.

ADF Command Statement

NC161401 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1300 GMT 16 Jan 80 NC

[16 January statement issued by the Arab Deterrent Forces Command--read by announcer]

[Text] The militia resumed their sniping in the Riyad as-Sulh and Bab Idris areas today. As a result, three persons were injured. One of them was transferred to the Al-Barbir Hospital and a second to the American University hospital. The Arab Deterrent Forces [ADF] did not return the fire thus preventing the armed men from escalating their act. This was in line with ADF orders.

Forces Command Statement

NC162107 (Clandestine) Voice of Lebanon in Arabic to Lebanon 2015 GMT 16 Jan 80 NC

[16 January statement by the Lebanese Forces Command official spokesman--read by announcer]

[Text] With reference to the statement issued today by the so-called Arab Deterrent Forces [ADF] Command regarding its claim about the resumption of sniping from the Lebanese forces positions in the commercial area and the wounding of three persons, the Lebanese Forces Command refutes and denies the entire contents of the above-mentioned statement and urges the ADF command [words indistinct] seriousness and equanimity. We note that it is merely a legitimate facade for a blatant Syrian occupation.

The reason the Syrian occupation army released this statement today after it had caused the deterioration of the security situation in the center of the capital yesterday is due to pure [word indistinct] considerations connected with the meeting of the foreign ministers of the steadfastness and rejectionist states in Damascus. It would have been more appropriate for the Syrian regime to prove its military prowess outside Lebanese territory and not to inflict on the peaceful Lebanese people [word indistinct] internal contradictions from which Syria is suffering.

INFORMATION MINISTER ON INTERNAL AFFAIRS, FOREIGN RELATIONS

ID151649 Paris AN-NAHAR AL-'ARABI WA AD-DUWALI in Arabic 14-20 Jan 80 pp 26-28 ID

[Interview granted by Syrian Minister of Information Ahmad Iskandar Ahmad to Wadi' al-Hilu in Damascus--date not given]

[Text] [Question] With the announcement that Dr 'Abd ar-Ra'uf al-Ksim has been charged with forming the new cabinet, what in your opinion are the main tasks the cabinet will have to carry out?

[Answer] I believe that the new government's immediate task is to work seriously to implement the resolutions of the party's seventh conference and to deal with bottlenecks in the services sector. Its task is also to seek, through the means available, to improve the citizens' living standards and do away with the phenomena of laxity and carelessness in certain governmental sectors. Another major objective which the government has to achieve is the better utilization of manpower and material resources in the country, to improve performance in the official institutions and to deal with the negative aspects of the public sector with a view to improving its output both in quantity and quality.

[Question] How would you evaluate the results achieved by the seventh regional party conference?

[Answer] The seventh regional conference of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party represents a significant and bright aspect in the party's internal life as well as in the internal situation in the Syrian Arab region. The regional conference is the highest leadership authority in the country which, therefore, draws up the action plan for the coming stage in the light of past experience, inspired by the party's ideology and in accordance with the country's needs and future requirements. Under Ba'th Party leadership Syria constantly deals with the country's issues in the light of the Arab nation's higher national interests. The conference studied in great detail and with a high sense of responsibility the internal situation in its various aspects. It also analyzed the nature of the stage through which the Arab nation as a whole is passing. The conference drafted its resolutions as a result of the democratic dialog that prevailed throughout the 16 days of study, discussion and responsible deliberation. The conference drafted its resolution with the aim of achieving the following:

1. Completion of the development plan in Syria, development of the national economy, improving the standard of living of citizens and enhancing national unity and party organizational cohesion;

2. Enabling Syria, through its own means and the better utilization of available resources, to stand fast against the imperialist and Zionist conspiracies symbolized in the Camp David alliance and the policy that resulted from it in the area;

3. Enhancing the effectiveness of the Syrian role in bolstering joint Arab action and the utilization of all Arab potential in serving the Arabs' national battle against Israel and U.S. imperialism and their agent As-Sadat;

4. Underlining popular participation in shouldering the responsibility of national struggle and internal building as well as expanding the framework of such participation.

The conference resolutions satisfied the aspirations of our citizens and party bases and reflected the desires which our people feel and are craving to achieve. The conference resolutions will be a plan of action for the new regional party leadership and the new government. I can assure you that the resolutions adopted will be implemented seriously and with a sense of responsibility, and that the pace of action will be fast and high in order to achieve our people's aspirations.

We have declared what we are going to achieve. The slogan of the stage will be: Declare what you can actually implement.

Moreover, there is high party vigilance and full party and people's control to insure work progress and proper implementation of the plan. For this reason the conference accepted President Hafiz al-Asad's words about the need to expose shortcomings and not to cover up mistakes as the slogan for the coming stage.

The change in the party structure, the creation of a Central Committee and a control and auditing committee are designed to achieve an objective of great significance, namely maintaining the seventh regional congress' constant control of the regional leadership, broadening the democratic base and participation in shouldering leadership responsibility.

We as a party and as citizens consider the seventh regional conference a renewal of the corrective movement and a confirmation of its principles. It is also a renewal of confidence in President Hafiz al-Asad and a confirmation of the party's and people's faith in his historical leadership and his wisdom and courage in shouldering responsibilities and leading the Arab struggle.

For these considerations we have described the seventh regional conference of the Socialist Arab Ba'th Party as a bright spot in the life of our party and people. It was the richest of our conferences in dialog, the most responsible and the most anxious to elevate and develop our society.

[Question] Does concentration on the internal situation mean withdrawal at the Arab and international level?

[Answer] Concentration on the internal situation is aimed at achieving intrinsic Syrian strength which will enable it to continue its pan-Arab role more effectively. We in the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party and under the leadership of President Hafiz al-Asad deal with our regional issues only in light of the higher interests of the Arab nation. Syria constitutes the base of steadfastness and confrontation and the Arab nation's vanguard in confronting its enemies and their successive plots. It is our duty to make this base stronger, more capable of facing the difficulties of the phase and more powerful to confront the foreign conspiracies which seek to weaken Syria as preparation for liquidating the pan-Arab cause. Concentration on consolidating the internal situation in Syria, improving performance in the various state institutions and developing the national economy is a basic part of the requirements of our major battle to liberate the occupied Arab territory.

[Question] In addition to the will for change, what prompted the delegates to reach the proposals and resolutions they adopted? Did the internal situation on the one hand and the Arab and international climates which accompanied the convening of the conference on the other play a part in determining the attitude to the events taking place in the Arab area?

[Answer] As I have mentioned, the conference studied in a serious detailed manner the nature of the phase through which the Arab nation is passing in all its aspects. It also analyzed the various aspects of the internal situation. The resolutions and recommendations adopted by the conference were the result of that analysis and study. Therefore, the conference not only expressed an opinion on the present situation but also drew up a plan of action for the future.

[Question] It is observed that President al-Asad led the movement for change at the conference as he led the corrective movement in 1970. To what extent can we say that what has happened is a second corrective movement?

[Answer] As far as our party and people are concerned, President al-Asad is a historic leader. As such he is always the most discerning of the future, the most capable among us of comprehensive perception. He has been the hope of our party and people and he has constantly drawn attention in his public speeches to the negative aspects, shortcomings and negligence in our work and the diminishing sense of responsibility. He wanted the conference to uphold the principles and aims of the corrective movement and to criticize and to practice self-criticism and self-examination, so that our party would surge into a new qualitative phase, unburdened by the negativities of the past but taking the study of the past as an incentive for enthusiastic and sincere work to achieve a better future. The comprehensive and radical change, which has begun with the election of the new leadership and which will be complemented in the government and state institutions, is the beginning of our steps to mobilize our people's capabilities, rectify the course of our development and emphasize the citizens' freedom and preserve their dignity and security.

[Question] Was the purpose for which the conference was convened achieved by the results it reached?

[Answer] Yes, most definitely. Our compatriots' interest in the conference was great, like the interest of our party bases. The results were commensurate with this great interest. I believe that our party bases and our people's masses received the conference results with great satisfaction. Their optimism about the future has been enhanced and their confidence in themselves and in the future has increased.

[Question] The past 4 years were full of rapid-developing events. Syria was in the midst of those events. Where was Syrian policy wrong and where was it right? Is it possible to define Syria's most important achievements in the past 4 years?

[Answer] The conference study of our internal and Arab situations confirmed the correctness of our political line and the soundness of the country's political stands in dealing with events. The conference expressed its honor and pride in the national and humanitarian role which Syria played in halting the civil war in Lebanon and placed on record its high appreciation of the country's solidity in resisting Camp David and the results to which the Camp David conspiracy led.

However, in its criticism the conference concentrated on the negative aspects of the development plan in the past years. In the past 4 years the country made tremendous achievements in the various fields and in every sector. The conference placed on record its pride in what has been achieved and its strong rejection of every negative aspect that emerged and detracted from the greatness of the achievements.

[Question] In the past you spoke about broadening the national and progressive front by including in it elements with scientific and political abilities. You also spoke of giving this front a greater role in Syrian political life. Which are the elements that are likely to join this front?

[Answer] The conference confirmed the need for developing the national and progressive front and enhancing the effectiveness of its role in the country's political and social life. The new regional command has been asked to work earnestly and rapidly for the creation of a formula to insure the front's development. The conference paid special attention to the need to incorporate new elements in the front and to broaden its base with a view to representing the various popular sectors in it. The regional command will announce the formula for such development as soon as possible.

[Question] The conflict in the Middle East is, in the final analysis, a conflict over Syria. Now that Egypt has left the Arab trench, that statement is assuming its practical and subjective dimensions, especially now that over 1 year has elapsed since the two Camp David agreements. The question is: What preparations has Syria made to confront the onslaught to which it is being subjected?

[Answer] I do not agree with you on the conflict-over-Syria phrase. That phrase was uttered to describe a phase during which Syria was weak and others were seeking to impose their influence on it. Since the 1970 corrective movement, Syria has been strong and capable--strong in its army and people and capable of seeking to achieve its aims whatever efforts and sacrifices that entails. Syria is today playing the principal leading role in the Arab national battle. Whoever leads the conflict is subject to numerous plots in various ways in order to weaken his leading position and neutralize his effectiveness. This is the great ambition of those who draw up conspiratorial plans, but they should not imagine for a single moment that anyone can make Syria deviate from its principles or bargain with it on its cause. Consequently, no one can now disregard Syria's role and effectiveness as a major local power in the Middle East.

[Question] What is the reality of the Syrian position regarding what has happened in Iran and what is now happening in Afghanistan?

[Answer] We are with the Iranian people in consolidating and stabilizing their revolution and upholding its anti-imperialist and anti-Zionist principles. Theirs is a revolution which is resolutely on the Arabs' side in their struggle against Israeli occupation of the Arab territories. We appreciate the Iranian Revolution's stands in supporting our cause and the justness of our struggle. We have often emphasized this since the first moments of the Iranian Revolution, before and since it triumphed. We believe that consolidating the stability of the Iranian Revolution, which is hostile to imperialism and Zionism, is the duty of every Arab who understood the meaning of the shah's siding with our Israeli enemy and realizes the significance of Iran's shifting, through its revolution, to the side of Arab rights in occupied Palestine.

Making some Arabs fearful of the Iranian Revolution is an American-Israeli plan that is altogether even more hostile to the Arabs than to the Iranian people's revolution.

As for what is happening in Afghanistan, it is the right of every people to determine their own fate and to cooperate with whomever they wish at any time they like. It is also the right of every government in the world to choose its own friends and to cooperate with its friends in the manner which it feels will serve its aims.

[Question] The Arab states met at the Baghdad summit conference and then in Tunis and agreed on the minimum. Is agreement still possible now that the Arab stands regarding the events in Afghanistan and Iran have differed? Do you not believe that the conflicting Arab axes policy has begun to take the place of the policy of Arab solidarity, especially now that the cold war atmosphere has returned to dominate international relations?

[Answer] As long as the Arabs are loyal to their national cause, there is no fear of anyone succeeding in diverting their attention from the principal battle to peripheral issues. The basic task of every Arab country during the present phase is to concentrate its efforts and mobilize its capabilities to frustrate the Camp David conspiracy and its effects and to annul the treaty of treason which As-Sadat has signed with Israel. The dissipation of efforts and the diversion of attention to any matter that does not serve the unity of Arab action and the consolidation of Arab solidarity can be accepted from no one.

Any incident that weakens American imperialism and Israel in any part of the world serves Arab unanimity in confronting the American-Israeli-Sadat conspiracy. It would be a gross mistake to confuse the views and concepts or for any Arab to secede from Arab unanimity against the Camp David conspiracy and its triumvirate--the United States, Israel and as-Sadat.

The plans of the parties to the conspiracy center on dissipating Arab efforts and creating illusory battles for some Arabs in order to preoccupy them and turn them from their battle against America, Israel and As-Sadat. It is important for us Arabs to maintain our vigilance and our solidarity and to frustrate the chances of our nation's enemies. We must calculate all situations on the basis of serving the Arab struggle against the parties to Camp David.

[Question] Approximately 4 years have passed since the Syrian forces entered Lebanon. Is the role of these forces being reconsidered? How true are the reports which spoke about changing the deployment of these forces and the role they have been playing so far. There are those who say that the solution to the Lebanese crisis must be based on a Lebanese-Syrian-Palestinian understanding. What is your opinion about this statement?

[Answer] Syria's national and humanitarian role in Lebanon is based on principle, and this role will continue for as long as necessary. Syria's role in Lebanon was a cause of pride for the Ba'th Party's seventh regional conference participants. The conference decided that Syria's efforts should continue in order to consolidate Lebanon's unity, security and stability. This means that Syria has a position in Lebanon but is not a protagonist there. Syria is for all the Lebanese, and it cooperates with everybody in a manner that serves Lebanon's security and stability, consolidates its legitimate government, foils the Israeli plan and prevents anyone from becoming involved in it. Syria wants national detente to be achieved as soon as possible on a firm basis of respect for legitimacy, the preservation of Lebanon's unity and the prevention of any direct or indirect dealings with Israel. Syria wants the Lebanese brothers to be able to implement the resolutions adopted at the Arab summit and to create a suitable atmosphere for restoring unity to an Arab Lebanon capable of serving itself and its Arab nation.

There is nothing new in the principled stand regarding what is happening in Lebanon. In its dealings with the parties in the Lebanese arena, Syria looks to the post only insofar as it will serve Lebanon's future and its Arab nation. Therefore, Syria does not base its action on hatred for anyone but wants everybody to be aware of their present and future and of their real interests and to serve their interests and future. Any Lebanese who proceeds from this view will inevitably find himself at Syria's side against Israel and its agent and against the partitioning of Lebanon, and with the legitimate government, the Arabs and their national cause.

[Question] After more than a year since the signing of the two Camp David agreements, peaceful efforts to find a settlement to the Arab-Israeli dispute appear to be deadlocked. The question is: Is there an alternative Syrian Arab or international proposal or plan?

[Answer] The Baghdad and Tunis Arab summit resolutions outlined a clear Arab plan for peace in the Middle East. A basic part of this plan to achieve a just, lasting and comprehensive peace is to frustrate the Camp David conspiracy and eliminate all its effects. Syria's current struggle is concentrated against the conspiracy and its plans in all fields, because the Camp David agreements and the treasonous treaty between As-Sadat and Israel have blocked the way to comprehensive and lasting peace. Therefore, those obstacles must be eliminated and the balance of power in the area adjusted before resuming the march on the road to a comprehensive political settlement.

NEW CABINET SWORN IN, HOLDS FIRST MEETING

JN160954 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0915 GMT 16 Jan 80 JN

[Text] In Damascus today Prime Minister Dr 'Abd ar-Ra'uf al-Kism and the ministers were sworn in before President Hafiz al-Asad. Following the ceremony, the new cabinet held its first meeting at 1030 under President Hafiz al-Asad.

VOICE OF LEBANON REPORTS MURDER OF MUKHTAR IN ALEPPO

NC151556 (Clandestine) Voice of Lebanon in Arabic to Lebanon 1515 GMT 15 Jan 80 NC

[Text] The Voice of Lebanon radio correspondent reports that in Aleppo the mukhtar of the Al-Mutanabbi Street quarter was killed by armed members of the Muslim Brotherhood. He had informed the authorities that three members of the army had deserted and later joined the Muslim Brotherhood with their weapons. Three members of the intelligence department, who were hunting the deserters, were wounded in a clash.

VOL: ANTI-SYRIAN LEAFLETS DISTRIBUTED IN ALEPPO

NC131636 (Clandestine) Voice of Lebanon in Arabic to Lebanon 1515 GMT 13 Jan 80 NC

[Text] In Al-Biqa', an explosion occurred in a Syrian Army truck in the village of Jusi on the Lebanese-Syrian border.

Meanwhile, persons arriving from Damascus have said that a state of strong apprehension is prevailing in the Syrian capital and in Aleppo and that people are leaving these two cities because of the house raids and detentions being carried out by Syrian security services. The arrivals from Damascus add that leaflets are being secretly distributed in Aleppo that attack the Syrian regime and that carry signatures other than those of the Muslim Brotherhood.

LIBYAN FOREIGN SECRETARY ARRIVES IN DAMASCUS

LD161858 Tripoli JANA in English 1704 GMT 16 Jan 80 LD

[Text] Damascus, January 16, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY--The Foreign Secretary Dr 'Ali 'Abd as-Salam at-Turayki arrived in Damascus last night to attend the meetings of the foreign ministers of the Steadfastness and Confrontation Front which started in Damascus today.

In a statement to the press at Damascus airport, he asserted that the Steadfastness and Confrontation Front was a major factor in foiling the defeatist and capitulatory plot of the Egyptian president.

The Foreign Secretary added that the meeting is stamped with importance as it will allow the front's countries evaluate the current situation and to take necessary measures in that respect.

AL-ASAD RECEIVES STEADFASTNESS FRONT FOREIGN MINISTERS

JN161740 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1615 GMT 16 Jan 80 JN

[Text] Damascus--President Hafiz al-Asad received at 1530 today Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, Algerian Foreign Minister Mohamed Benyahia, Libyan Foreign Affairs Secretary Dr 'Ali at-Turayki, PDRY Foreign Affairs Minister Salim Salih Muhammad and head of the PLO Political Department Faruq Qaddumi. The ministers briefed the president on the results of the discussions held at the meeting of the pan-Arab steadfastness and confrontation foreign ministers.

A review was then made of the situation and its developments in the region.

The pan-Arab steadfastness and confrontation foreign ministers' conference resumed its meetings at the Sheraton Hotel in Damascus at 1700 today to continue study and discussion of the agenda.

AL-ASAD RECEIVES QATARI FOREIGN MINISTER 16 JAN

JN162024 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1915 GMT 16 Jan 80 JN

[Text] Damascus--President Hafiz al-Asad received at 1900 today Qatari Foreign Minister Shaykh Suhaym ibn Hamad Al Thani. During the meeting, a review was made of the situation in the Arab region and bilateral relations.

## LIBYA

### GROUNDING OF PALESTINIAN PILOTS IN LIBYA REPORTED

NC170806 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic to the Arab World 0530 GMT 17 Jan 80 NC

[Text] Col Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi has issued an order to the Libyan Air Force commander and to the commanders of the air bases barring Palestinian pilots in the Libyan Air Force from flying their planes over Libya. This measure is part of Al-Qadhdhafi's anti-PLO campaign. He also ordered his intelligence services to supervise the implementation of this order.

### JANA EDITOR DENIES EXISTENCE OF LIBYAN, FATAH RIFT

LD162234 Tripoli Voice of the Arab Homeland in Arabic 2200 GMT 16 Jan 80 LD

[Text] A JANA political editor has denied a London radio report that the meeting of the foreign ministers of the Steadfastness and Confrontation Front was held to eliminate the disagreement between the Jamahiriyah and the Fatah movement. Concerning this, the political editor pointed to the statement made by the leader of the revolution at the press conference held in Benghazi, attended by a number of reporters of leading Arab and world newspapers. There he emphasized that there is no disagreement between the Jamahiriyah and Fatah. He said that the disagreement comes from one side, Fatah, and it is up to Fatah to remove this disagreement.

The political editor stressed that this meeting, for which preparations and contacts were made, was held to discuss the Arab situation, especially since the betrayal of the Arab nation and its central issue--Palestine--by the defeated Egyptian president.

### TWO U.S. SENATORS ARRIVE IN TRIPOLI 16 JAN

LD161942 Tripoli JANA in English 1810 GMT 16 Jan 80 LD

[Text] Tripoli, January 16, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY--Two American senators arrived in Tripoli this afternoon to hold talks on promoting (?cooperation) between the Jamahiriyah and American people and to witness the achievements realized under the 1st of September Revolution.

They were met at Tripoli international airport by a representative of the Foreign Liaison Bureau at the General People's Congress secretariat and the American charge d'affaires in Tripoli.

## MAURITANIA

### FINANCE MINISTER OUTLINES DECREASE IN STATE BUDGET

LD162310 Nouakchott Domestic Service in Arabic 2300 GMT 15 Jan 80 LD

[Text] Mr Ahmed Ould Zein, the minister of economy and finance, has held a meeting with the national press to discuss the basic directions of the 1980 state budget. At the beginning of the meeting, the minister explained that this year's budget reflects the economic reform toward which the Military Committee of National Salvation seeks to lead the country.

For this reason the budget is based in a very accurate assessment of general needs which stems from a realistic appraisal of the expected resources. He noted that state expenditures have decreased this year by 775 million ouguiyas as compared with last year. This suggests the extent of the effort each Mauritanian must make in order to improve the deteriorating situation which we inherited from the former regime.

Regarding the military committee's concern over low salaries, the minister said that the state has decided to raise the incomes of employees earning less than 10,000 ouguiyas by 500 ouguiyas a month. He said that the salary increases will compensate for the drop in the purchasing power of this group of employees. Concerning regional development, Ahmed Ould Zein said that a significant portion of the new budget has been earmarked for the development of our provinces. These funds will be spent carefully in order to secure the desired results as a tangible factor in developing the provinces.

Part of the budget has been allocated to encourage productive investments and agricultural development. The state budget for this year amounts to 9,947,317,000 ouguiyas compared with last year's budget of 10,726,069,000 ouguiyas.

## SUDAN

### VICE PRESIDENT AFFIRMS REJECTION OF PALESTINIAN BORDERS

JN171102 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1130 GMT 17 Jan 80 JN

[Text] Khartoum, 17 January--Ar-Rashid at-Tahir Bakr, vice president and secretary of the department of political affairs and organizations in SSU, has affirmed that Sudan rejects false borders for Palestine and the partition of the Palestinian issue.

In a speech he delivered last night to the SSU leaders of political and executive action in the region east of the Nile, Ar-Rashid at-Tahir said that since Sudan is part of the Arab homeland it will stand on the Palestinian people's side until Palestine becomes Arab and Muslim again.

### FOREIGN MINISTER CONDEMNS SOVIET INVASION OF AFGHANISTAN

ID161850 Omdurman Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 16 Jan 80 ID/EA

[Text] Mr Ar-Rashid at-Tahir Bakr, vice president of the republic and foreign minister, has affirmed the Sudan's rejection and condemnation of the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan immediately. Replying to question by SUNA on the Sudan's position, following the absence of its permanent delegate to the United Nations during voting in the UN General Assembly on the draft resolution calling for immediate withdrawal of Soviet forces from Afghanistan, Mr ar-Rashid at-Tahir said Sudan had stated its position on events in Afghanistan. The Foreign Ministry's under secretary had also conveyed to the Soviet ambassador in Khartoum Sudan's rejection of all the justifications put forth by the USSR for the invasion of Afghanistan. He demanded the immediate withdrawal of Soviet forces from Afghanistan.

Sudan also declared its position in this respect through mass media inside the country and abroad. Directives were issued to all of Sudan's ambassadors abroad to act in accordance with this (?position).

Mr ar-Bashid at-Tahir explained that Sudan's condemnation of the Soviet invasion and its demand for withdrawal stem from one of the firm principles of its foreign policy, which is respect for the will of peoples and rejection of interference in the internal affairs of others. They also stem from respect for the [word indistinct] ties that bind it to the Muslim people of Afghanistan and to Afghanistan as a member of the nonalined family. They also stem from Sudan's understanding and awareness of the nature of the situation in that part of the world and the dangers which can arise from this precedent to peace, security and stability throughout the region.

OFFICIAL REITERATES REJECTION OF AFGHAN INVASION

JN161730 Khartoum SUNA in English 1700 GMT 16 Jan 80 JN

[Text] Khartoum, Jan 16 (SUNA)--Sudanese First Vice President and Foreign Minister ar-Rashid at-Tahir Bakr today confirmed Sudan's rejection and denunciation of the Soviet Union invasion of Afghanistan and called the Soviet Union to pull its troops out of Afghanistan immediately.

Answering a question by Sudan News Agency (SUNA) on the Sudan's stand following the absence of its permanent representative to the United Nations when a draft resolution on the immediate withdrawal of Soviet troops in Afghanistan was tabled before the U.N. General Assembly for a decision, Bakr said the Sudan has determined its stand from what is going [on] in Afghanistan when the Sudanese Foreign Ministry under secretary had conveyed to the Soviet ambassador here Sudan's rejection for all justifications put by the Soviet Union for its invasion of Afghanistan.

"Sudan, in denouncing the Soviet invasion to Afghanistan, was inspired by the principle of respecting the will of other peoples and its rejection of the interference in others ir ernal affairs as well as its respect to the ties that link it with the Muslim Afghan people and with Afghanistan as a member of the non-aligned movement", he added.

President Numayri ordered today the withdrawal of Sudan's permanent representative to the U.N. Ali Ahmad Sahlul because he was absent when a draft resolution on the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan was put before the U.N. General Assembly yesterday.

UN DELEGATE RECALLED FOR NOT VOTING IN AFGHAN DEBATE

LD161557 Omdurman Domestic Service in Arabic 1300 GMT 16 Jan 80 LD

[Text] President Ja'far Muhammad Numayri has ordered the recall of Mr Ali Ahmad Sahlul, Sudan's permanent UN delegate, for his attitude during the proceedings and voting (of the UN General Assembly) on the draft resolution calling for the immediate withdrawal of foreign forces from Afghanistan. Inasmuch as Sahlul neither voted in nor attended the session held [words indistinct] (for this purpose) the Sudan News Agency reports that the president of the republic has (directed) the Foreign Ministry to recall (the delegate) to Khartoum immediately.

It is worth mentioning that the UN General Assembly agreed to call for the immediate withdrawal of foreign forces from Afghanistan with a majority of 104 votes [as heard]. It is known that Sudan (called on) the USSR to withdraw its forces from Afghanistan immediately, when Mr Hashim Uthman, under-secretary of the Foreign Ministry, summoned the Soviet ambassador in Khartoum on 6 January to notify him of Sudan's reply to the Soviet note on the [word indistinct] intervention in Afghanistan, which the ambassador delivered to the Foreign Ministry 28 December.

MENAHEM BEGIN, SHIM'ON PERES ADDRESS KNESSET

TA161230 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1105 GMT 16 Jan 80 TA

[Text] Prime Minister Menahem Begin and opposition leader Shim'on Peres argued between themselves this morning from the Knesset podium. Two hours ago the prime minister gave a political statement, and a debate at the plenum began in its wake.

In the name of the government, Menahem Begin said, our relations with Egypt have gotten off to a good start; Shim'on Peres replied: whenever Begin returns from Egypt, As-Sadat is the one who accumulates points. Afghanistan and Iran and the Palestinians and Syria were also mentioned in the debate.

In fact, what was not mentioned? Here is Razi Barqay on the beginning of the Knesset debate:

After many months, there is a political debate in the Knesset, and the contents are varied. The Knesset is today expressing its opinion on the situation in Iran, the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan, relations with the United States and, of course, the peace treaty with Egypt. The prime minister, in a written speech, first brought up the international questions: The Islamic Revolution and Afghanistan. The horror of the hostages in Iran, he said, also holds a lesson for Israel.

[Begin Begin recording] The spokesman of that murderers' organization called the PLO has announced--and I am quoting: The Islamic Revolution is the law for the Palestinian revolution. There is an alliance between us which will not be severed. We have known the truth about the enemy for all these years, but now we must hope that others--many of them in different parts of the world--after having heard these specific words about an alliance between two phenomena of blind, twin-like hatreds, will understand and evaluate what we are confronting, what enemy we are facing.

The second shock reverberating throughout the world these days is connected with the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan. There is no doubt that this is one of the gravest events of our time. If a Soviet invasion is aid to a friend, what, heaven forbid, could happen if a state called Palestine or a similar creation were to be established within Eretz Yisra'el under the rule of the Qaddums or the 'Arafats? In the shortest time, everywhere, throughout the continent, it would turn into a Soviet base at the invitation of a friend. [end recording]

[Barqay] It was amid this difficult atmosphere in our region, Menahem Begin said, that I met with President as-Sadat in Aswan. We both see the risks eye to eye; we found a common language. But on the matters pending between the two countries, there are differences of opinion. We are both aware of them, and the most outstanding of them is the question of the implementation of the autonomy.

[Begin Begin recording] There was progress in these talks on the lighter matters. As for the matters which have greater significance, there has not yet been progress and the negotiations are continuing. We want an agreement with Egypt on this issue, as we want an agreement with all our neighbors. And with regard to the autonomy, we want an agreement with the Arabs who are inhabitants of Judaea, Samaria and the Gaza Strip. We did not intend to sign a separate peace treaty with Egypt. We called it a first peace treaty. It is obvious that making peace cannot be imposed. It must be accepted freely by each side and, up to now, the elements I mentioned have refused to join the peace-making process. [end recording]

[Barqay] In keeping with custom, the first of the speakers after the prime ministers is the head of the opposition. Today, it was a sharp speech by Shim'on Peres against what he calls a policy of statements which has no real action. This government has no program, Peres thinks, in regard to the situation in the region, in regard to the Palestinians, in regard to the matter of our relations with the United States.

[Begin Peres recording] I heard the prime minister's survey and I am absolutely amazed by his lack of attention toward the issues which he himself has warned the nation. The prime minister met with conservative members of Parliament from Britain. What he did not tell the members of the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Security Committee, he did tell the members of Parliament from Britain, and not just stories which it would not have mattered had they not been mentioned at all, but the gravest matters. I do not know whether they are also serious, but certainly grave. The prime minister of Israel stood up in public and said that Syria may launch an attack against Israel. A small thing, unimportant... [indistinct interruption by Begin] Sir, if you did not say this--this is not an internal political affair, you should have corrected your words and explained them. This is what was published. The Americans--and not just them--but, this morning--that is, yesterday--the New York TIMES published, not under the name of someone anonymous--as is done here in Israel--but in the name of the U.S. Secretary of State, that the United States must now increase its status in the Arab world and speed up the solution of the Palestinian problem. I hope that the prime minister heard the radio this morning. Maybe he read it in a cable. [end recording]

[Barqay] There were angry reactions from the government benches, mainly by the prime minister himself and Defense Minister 'Ezer Weizman. But Peres, for his part, continued to attack and complained about a policy of dwarfing oneself before the Americans.

[Begin Peres recording] I also want to say to 'Ezer, my good friend: This courting, too, in talks, in courtesy visits and so on.... Let them say to us, in the name of God, that we are a strategic asset. The Americans have already learned that the shortest way to cut short a talk with Israelis is to tell them at the beginning of the talk: Fine, you are a strategic asset. What is all this? For what? Does it add honor to us, prestige? Does it increase our assets? [end recording]

[Barqay] After the first two speeches, the Knesset was empty. The debate continues with the announcements of the various factions and of Moshe Dayan, who has recently been taking care to fight for his right to speak and has already announced that he also intends to speak today. The political debates, then, will continue for several more hours.

COMMENTS ON EGYPTIAN REJECTION OF AUTONOMY MODEL

Spokesman Defends Proposal

TA161728 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1700 GMT 16 Jan 80 TA

[Text] The spokesman for the Israeli delegation to the autonomy talks, Dan Patir, has said that Israel had submitted a draft of the construction of the self-administration and its power which is based entirely on the Camp David principles, and not on distorted interpretations given them by the Egyptians. He was thus reacting to Egypt's announcement that it rejects the draft out of hand because it is incompatible with the Camp David accords. Dan Patir emphasized that the autonomy plan was initially an Israeli initiative and Israel will continue to act accordingly in order to reach an agreement.

All the powers Israel deems necessary for the administrative council were included in the model plan.

The head of the U.S. delegation to the talks, James Leonard, has said that the presentation of the Israeli model symbolizes an entrance into a new stage of the negotiations and discussion of substantive matters.

Minister Hammer's View

TA162036 Jerusalem Domestic Television Service in Hebrew 1930 GMT 16 Jan 80 TA

[Interview with Education and Culture Minister Zvulun Hammer by Israeli television correspondent on party affairs, Nisim Mish'al, and Israeli television correspondent on education affairs David Gilbo'a; moderated by Tuvya Sa'ar at the television studios--live]

[Excerpt] [Mish'al] Mr Hammer, let us return to the political issue: This evening Egypt announced--as we heard on the television news--that it is rejecting the Israeli autonomy model. What is your opinion on this?

[Hammer] I, of course, support the Israeli autonomy model, and that it should under no circumstances become a nucleus for a Palestinian state. Under no circumstances is the autonomy meant to be self-determination for the Palestinians. It is an administrative rule and not anything beyond this.

[Mish'al] The question is whether, in light of this rejection, there is perhaps no room to modify the model?

[Hammer] It is being changed somewhat all the time, but in principle we cannot reach a situation in which a parliament will be established there, which means the beginnings of a state.

[Sa'ar] Mr Hammer, while we are talking about autonomy, when they met in Aswan, the Egyptian president suggested to the prime minister that autonomy be implemented first in the Gaza district. Is this acceptable to you?

[Hammer] There are various aspects to this question. But as far as I understand, the Egyptian president suggested that first it be determined what will really be the nature of the autonomy--both in Judaea and Samaria and in Gaza--and therefore, in my opinion, the order of things should be as follows: First of all, we must decide whether we have reached an arrangement and an understanding on what autonomy is; afterward, we must try to persuade both the Judaea and Samaria Arabs and those in Gaza to accept autonomy as per the arrangement which will be accepted. If the Judaea and Samaria Arabs do not accept this, but would rather implement the same autonomy on which we will decide only in Gaza, we will then have to decide what to do.

[Mish'al] What will your position be in the Cabinet?

[Hammer] At present, I would propose that the Cabinet say that it wants to reach an agreement with the Egyptians on the nature of autonomy before it decides on where autonomy will first be implemented.

SHARON ADVISES AGAINST EGYPTIAN STATUS IN GAZA STRIP

TA161404 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1200 GMT 16 Jan 80 TA

[Text] Minister Ari'el Sharon has said that it would be a mistake to give any status to Egypt in the Gaza Strip since this could endanger peace between Israel and Egypt. Sharon said that terrorist acts originating in Gaza during the 1950's prompted Israeli reprisals.

This cycle ended in conflagations. The agriculture minister said that a similar escalation is likely to develop if Egypt is given a special status in the Gaza district. Minister Sharon was speaking to the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Security Committee.

EGYPT-ISRAEL BORDER CROSSING OPENED TO SINAI INHABITANTS

TA161234 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1100 GMT 16 Jan 80 TA

[Text] The border crossing at Ne'ot Sinai between Israel and Egypt has been opened for passage to Sinai inhabitants on both sides of the border. This morning, 50 bedouins from the Israeli area crossed to Al-'Arish and another 50 went from there to Shaykh (Zuwwayd) and Abu (Tuwila) to visit their families.

EGYPTIANS CRITICIZE AIR TRAFFIC AGREEMENT

TA171044 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 17 Jan 80 p 1 TA

[By envoy to Cairo, Barukh Me'iri]

[Text] Various Egyptian circles have been trying to prevent the implementation of the air traffic agreement with Israel. According to the agreement, El Al will have two flights per week to Cairo and the Egyptian airlines will have two flights per week to Israel.

Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Dr Butrus Ghali is among those trying to prevent the "misfortune." In unofficial talks with Israeli representatives, Ghali claimed that "Israel should not rush the subject." He asserted that regular landings of El Al planes in Cairo could adversely affect Egypt's status in the Arab world.

Sources in the Egyptian delegation hinted that the landing of "Egypt Air" planes in Israel could severely affect the company. They added that "several Arab countries will probably not allow our planes to land at their airports. However, we are already used to steps of that kind being taken against us."

Members of the Israeli delegation in Cairo claimed that the matter had been agreed upon at the meeting between As-Sadat and Begin. They said: "The Egyptians should get used to the idea of full and not partial normalization."

PERES ON GOVERNMENT POLICY, ARAB COUNTRIES, SYRIAN THREAT

TA161414 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1200 GMT 16 Jan 80 TA

[Text] Opposition Labor Party leader Shim'on Peres attacked the prime minister [during the Knesset political debate today] for not referring to serious matters about which he himself had recently been sounding warnings; the armament of Syria, the arrival there of thousands of Russian advisers. The government's answer, Peres said, was to cut the defense budget while squandering money on Jabal al-Kabir. The government, Peres said, did not seem to have any long term program for the territories. Israeli and Egyptian positions on autonomy were unbridgeable but, Peres said, there was an alternative. And afterwards, reporter Leslie Susser asked him just what he had in mind. [Begin recording]

[Answer] Gaza first. I would recommend to start with this experiment.

[Question] So that you now think that the Labor Party is in favor or Gaza first?

[Answer] The Labor Party didn't yet conclude its official position on Gaza, but I would be among the people in Labor that will support it.

[Question] Mr Peres, after Afghanistan, would you say that there seems now to be more or a chance that countries like Jordan and Saudi Arabia will be willing to back an American initiative which Secretary of State Cyrus Vance says is now being considered?

[Answer] I'm afraid that America will back more the position of Egypt and Jordan than the other way round.

[Question] So that you don't see any sign of Jordan coming into the peace process?

[Answer] I think Jordan has good enough reasons without Afghanistan to come in to the peace process, because the alternative for the Jordanian crown is to be squeezed in eventually [between] a highly ambitious Iraqi military strength and a very impatient Palestinian state and that's a deadly danger for Jordan.

[Question] You also mentioned, in your speech today, Syrian rearmament, Russian advisers in Syria. Just how much of a threat do you think this poses to Israel?

[Answer] They quoted the prime minister and I suggested that he will specify what he means by it. I mean, he cannot make a statement like it without really explaining to the public how serious a threat it is. I d not have all the information.

[Question] You say that the government's answer to these new threats was to cut the defense budget and you also implied that the government was wasting money on things like Jabal al-Kabir. Do you think that this is a fair representation or government economic policy?

[Answer] Yes, I do. [end recording]

ARENS ADVISES ISRAELI RESPONSE TO DEVELOPMENTS

TA161547 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 16 Jan 80 p 9 TA

[Moshe Arens commentary: "In the Core of the Steel Ring"]

[Excerpt] Is there a connection between the increasing military capability in the Arab camp and their hostile intentions against Israel? Should Israel act according to the aforementioned capability or according to the Arab leaders' probable intentions? The impression is gained that the vast economic and human investments of the Arab countries in their armies indicate that preparations are being made for war. In any case, it is hard to believe that if the balance of power indeed changes to Israel's detriment in the next few years and if, as a cosequence, the Arab world gains the impression that another round in the battlefield will give them political advantages, there would not be one Arab leader who would be able to reject the temptation.

The lack of any noticeable action on the part of the Israeli Government to curb such a threatening development should give rise to grave concern. Especially worrisome is the tendency welcoming the military rapprochement between the United States and Egypt. Remarks such as "The Americans are better than the Russians," or "Do you want the Egyptians--after having severed their relations with the Russians--to fly Piper planes?" attest to both illogicality and a lack of commonsense.

The Egyptian Air Force today is not composed of Piper planes but of 500 modern fighters, such as MIG-21's, Mirages and Phantoms. Even if it wanted to, the Soviet Union could not provide Egypt with aircraft qualitatively comparable to the F-16's. Egypt does not face any threat from its neighbors that cannot be easily handled by their present army. The main consequence of the arms deliveries to Egypt lies in the change of the Israel-Arab balance of power to Israel's detriment. This phenomenon will eventually cause instability in Israeli-Arab relations.

The Israeli Government must make these facts clear to the U.S. Government and members of Congress who will have to approve the proposed deals. Israeli supporters and sympathizers in the United States are looking forward to hearing the Israeli Government's position on the subject and have not yet made up their minds. Even if an information campaign does not bring about the cancellation of the proposed deals it will probably reduce their scope and will cause the deletion of some very dangerous weapons.

The military relations being established between the United States and Egypt should bring about a change in Israel's procurement policy. It is clear now that an Egyptian demand will be submitted to balance each and every item the IDF purchases from the United States. Israel must then use its special advantage--the local defense industry. This industry can provide the IDF with sophisticated weapons meeting specific regional requirements and, at the same time, make it easier for the U.S. administration to resist Egyptian demands to provide the best weapons possessed by the U.S. Army.

The Israeli Government had better decide to develop an Israeli plane instead of purchasing F-15's and F-16's. Then, perhaps, it would prevent these aircraft from subsequently being supplied to Saudi Arabia and Egypt. The time has come to refrain from endless postponements and start developing the "Arye."

YIGA'EL YADIN CRITICIZES STATE DEPARTMENT LINKAGE

TA161309 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1200 GMT 16 Jan 80 TA

[Text] Deputy Prime Minister Yiga'el Yadin has criticized the U.S. State Department for linking the question of Afghanistan and the Israel-Egypt autonomy talks. He told our reporter these two issues were completely separate.

[Begin Yadin recording] To connect that with the Israeli bilateral problems between Israel and Egypt, I think, is a wrong way to put pressure on a question which is not related to the magnitude of the other problem. I think we should continue with our negotiations with the Egyptians as if nothing happened in the zone. We should try to look and help whenever we can to solve the problems of the zones--if we are being asked--as if we have no problems in the negotiations with Egypt and the other Arab countries. These are two separate questions whatsoever [as heard] in which we are all in the same boat. [end recording]

Tamir Disagrees

TA170951 Tel Aviv YEDI'OT AHARONOT in Hebrew 17 Jan 80 p 2 TA

[By Washington correspondent Ron Ben-Yishay]

[Text] Upon leaving a meeting with U.S. Secretary of State Cyrus Vance last night, Justice Minister Shmu'el Tamir said he had not noticed any signs of U.S. pressure on Israel.

"I did not feel myself pressured during the meeting," Tamir added. According to him, Cyrus Vance assured him that the remarks he had made in an interview to the New York TIMES should not be interpreted as pressure on Israel.

In the interview Vance said the negotiations on the autonomy should be completed by the target date. Tamir said "Vance assured me that his remarks had been an expression of his desire to see the autonomy talks advance at a reasonable pace to the benefit of all parties involved."

In a talk with Israeli correspondents before the meeting with Vance, Tamir said there was no room for harboring the illusion that the events in Iran and Afghanistan would bring about a change in the U.S. administration's position regarding the Palestinian issue. "There is more understanding of our anxiety over the establishment of a Palestinian state. However, the Americans are convinced that the promotion of the autonomy will solve the problems of the area," the justice minister said. According to Tamir, "the United States wants Israel to put forward initiatives and proposals which would attract the Palestinians and Jordan to the negotiating table."

Knowledgeable sources in Washington reported that there had been no reason for Tamir to change his mind on the issue in the wake of his meeting with Vance.

According to Tamir, there are clear indications that Jordan has not given up its aspirations regarding Judaea and Samaria. However, it has adopted cautious tactics in order "to receive a downpayment before joining the negotiating table."

Tamir thinks "the Jordanian affair is far from being solved." Nevertheless, he emphasized to his U.S. hosts that Israel could not make any downpayments to the Palestinians and Jordan which would ultimately devoid the negotiations on the autonomy of any real content.

BEGIN COMMENTS ON STATUS OF GOLAN HEIGHTS

TA161303 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1200 GMT 16 Jan 80 TA

[Text] Any government in Israel will give consideration to a petition saying that the Golan Heights are an inseparable part of Israel. This was stated by the prime minister, who received such a petition signed by 750,000 Israelis, including 6 ministers and 71 members of the Knesset. There is no doubt, he said, that this petition is an expression of the public's desire, a desire of the electees as well as of the electors.

Shlomo Hillel said on the same occasion that, if there is a national consensus that is not questioned by anyone, then it is on the need to give expression to the fact that our presence on the Golan Heights will be forever. Yig'al Kohen said everyone shares the view that the Golan Heights are the forward security line for Israel's peace and security. Amal Nasir ad-Din--Likud--expressed the horror of the Druzes living on the Golan Heights, saying that as soon as Israel withdraws, the Syrians will slaughter all the Druzes and Israel will be forced to return to the Golan Heights to help them, as it is doing today in southern Lebanon.

AFGHANISTAN

BABRAK KARMAL HOLDS PRESS CONFERENCE 16 JAN

LD162058 Kabul Domestic Serivce in Dari 1600 GMT 16 Jan 80 LD

[Excerpts] Babrak Karmal today received a number of journalists and correspondents from international news agencies, radio and television and the foreign press at the hall of [words indistinct] for a press conference. [read by announcer]

Question by an American journalist: What is your (?reaction) to the UN measure yesterday on Afghanistan?

Answer: [Words indistinct] since the conspiracies of the espionage networks of U.S. imperialism in collusion with the reactionary forces of the region and the international reaction have been crippled thanks to the unbreakable will of the people of Afghanistan and the judicious leadership of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan, [PNPA], U.S. imperialism has resorted to a series of vengeful provocations [words indistinct].

Question by the correspondent for Bulgarian radio and television: Comrade Karmal, first I would like to express my pleasure over the fact that I am able to meet you again, and then ask how you assess the current situation in Afghanistan (?in view) of the indestructable solidarity and firm bond that exist among the people of Afghanistan, for defending their country versus the (?divisive) measures of the enemies of Afghanistan?

Answer: I bring tidings to the friends of peace, freedom and progress in the world and the region that since the great Sawr Revolution entered its second phase of evolution, and freedom-seeking steps were taken under the leadership of the PDPA and the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan Government; and since the thousands of political prisoners who were put in chains and prison cells by the loyal colleague of the U.S. CIA, Amin, and his colleagues were set free; and since our compatriots, including all strata and classes of society, such as the honorable religious leaders, workers, farmers, intellectuals, teachers, professors, high-ranking officials, former ministers, tradesmen, professionals, national merchants and national capitalists, as well as generals and high-ranking military officers were released--on the one hand, our people have been holding freedom celebrations of joy and happiness. On the other hand, tens of thousands of much-persecuted families of Afghanistan are facing national mourning as they have lost their children, friends, husbands, mothers, sons and daughters. The 13th of January was declared the day of national mourning and the day of martyrs. (?I) offer tidings to all friends of peace, freedom and progress the world over that in recent days, thousands of our compatriots who had fled, thanks to the terror and tyranny of Amin and his followers, this spy band of the CIA and American imperialism, have put down their arms and declared their loyalty to the party and government at the nearest party and government centers, for the law and their support for the achievements of the great Sawr Revolution.

Similarly, I would like to inform you that thousands of national, progressive, democratic, freedom-loving and reformist elements of Afghanistan together with the intellectuals of Afghanistan have all expressed readiness for participation at the broad national fatherland's front. Tens of thousands of honorable Muslim toilers of Afghanistan and thousands of honorable and patriotic religious leaders of Afghanistan inside the country and abroad have shown readiness to support and cooperate with the party, government and the great Sawr Revolution.

Friends, this by itself is a manifestation of the free will of the people of Afghanistan, which is a stern answer to the foul souls that have organized an unholy alliance against the revolutionary and heroic Afghanistan.

Question by TASS correspondent: A new phase has begun in the Sawr Revolution these days. What are the characteristics of this phase of the revolution?

Answer: The noble people of Afghanistan under the PDPA's leadership are determined in a broad national fatherland front to take to its final victory the national, democratic, antifeudalist and anti-imperialist revolution. This is the outstanding characteristic of the second phase of the great Sawr Revolution.

Question by the correspondent of the NEW AGE, the central organ of the Indian Communist Party: I thank you for the opportunity granted me to ask my questions and address you. How do you view the outlook of unity of action among all the anti-imperialist and anti-reaction forces throughout the region, which includes India, Afghanistan and other countries?

Answer: Dear friend, human societies and the process of their evolution have a scientific basis. Science ruthlessly ordains that the old is perishing and the new is in the ascendant. I am confident and seriously optimistic that the unity of action between forces of peace and freedom in the region, from the great Indian subcontinent to the fraternal people of Bangladesh, India, Pakistan, Afghanistan and Iran will deal a heavy blow to the mouth of the reaction in the region, which is led by U.S. imperialism [words indistinct] in a powerful front in the form of a reciprocal offensive based on unity of action.

Question by the special correspondent of Bulgarian radio: How do you assess the unity and solidarity of the people and forces of progress with the people of Afghanistan, and in this connection, how would you comment on the expression of solidarity by Leonid Brezhnev, secretary general of the CPSU Central Committee and president of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR, who recently spoke in reply to the PRAVDA correspondent?

Answer: With regard to the interview of the esteemed Comrade Brezhnev, secretary general of the CPSU Central Committee and president of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR, I have spoken in detail at an interview that I gave and it has been published by the press in Afghanistan. You can find your answer there.

On the basis of the latest reports that I received, I anticipate you right-seeking journalist friends (?doing a service) for the people of the world. Tell the truth to the public and people of the world, that U.S. imperialism, with its [word indistinct] Western allies, together with regional reactionaries and in collusion with the Beijing leadership take advantage of the peace-loving people of the fraternal Pakistan. They have made Pakistan, in the vicinity of our country, into a base of aggression, and dozens of aircraft loaded with military equipment are landing every day for the reactionary forces on the borders of Afghanistan. And American and Chinese and British officers, instructors and teachers are training the enemies of Afghanistan and embark on aggression inside our country. I hope that you will tell this to the world's people. I assure you that the people of Afghanistan, with the help of their true friends, the friends of Afghanistan's independence and freedom, side by side with the heroic and liberating army of Afghanistan, will again give stern answers to these American, Chinese and British and other reactionaries.

Dear friends, our fight and just struggle will achieve victory.

PASHTUN LEADER INTERVIEWED ON RECENT DEVELOPMENTS

LD161816 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1530 GMT 16 Jan 80 LD

[Text] The great Pashtun leader, Khan 'Abdol Ghafar Khan, gave a press interview to the BAKHTAR NEWS AGENCY and radio and television correspondents on 10 January in Jalalabad. The text is as follows: [read by announcer]

Question by the correspondent of the HAQIQAT-E ENQELAB-E SAWR [Truth of the April Revolution]: How do you view the recent changes which took place in the month of Jadi [including days from December and January of Gregorian calendar] after the Sawr Revolution entered in its new phase in Afghanistan?

Answer: I was in Nangarhar Province. In Nangarhar the people very warmly welcomed the recent change that took place in the month of Jadi. The people used to say that this is a festival for us. They were happy over the USSR assistance. But after a few days, propaganda against the Soviet Union started. I was perplexed over who started this propaganda. It is clear that this propaganda has been started by the Americans, the British and their agents.

Question by the BAKHTAR NEWS AGENCY correspondent: Imperialist powers and their agents led by China and the United States of America have nowadays started extensive and empty propaganda against the democratic and national government of Afghanistan the world over, and they wish to spread lies about the internal and foreign policy of independent Afghanistan and thus damage the traditional friendship between the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan and the USSR. What is your view on this?

Answer: If you take a look at the history of Afghanistan, the British did not let us make progress. Whenever a progressive person emerged among us, they called him an infidel and expelled him from his country. When the Khoda'i Khedmatgar [the Red Shirts Movement led by Ghafar Khan] and the Congress Movement achieved victory in India and threw out the British, calm returned to Afghanistan. When Afghanistan was an issue between the two big powers--Britain and the Soviet Union--the British always tried to cause ruin to Afghanistan and did not let us progress, but the Soviets have, apart from help, interfered in no way in our internal affairs.

Question by the radio-television correspondent: What is your view on the path to improvement of relations between the two fraternal Muslim countries of Afghanistan and Pakistan?

Answer: War between two Muslim brothers is contrary to the command of God and His Prophet. It would be better if the current didfficulties were settled through peaceful means.

KABUL BEGINS PUBLICATION OF TWO NEW NEWSPAPERS

BK170257 Kabul NEW TIMES in English 2 Jan 80 p 4 BK

[Text] Kabul, 2 Jan (BAKHTAR)--On the basis of the decision made by the first joint meeting of the RC and the DRA Government, the dailies "HAQIQATI ENQELABI SAWR", the DRA's state organ in Pashto and Dari languages and the "Kabul NEW TIMES" appeared yesterday.

The above papers, in their first issues after they were renamed, published the historical and liberating speeches of Bakrak Karmal, general secretary of the POPA CC, president of RC and prime minister; the national and historical announcements of the Central Committee, state; the RC and Government of DRA; and photographs of the president and members of the RC, the Presidium and those of government members.

The papers also published editorials and pictorial reports on the release of political prisoners who had been living in dark cells under inhumane conditions due to the fascist regime of Hafizdllah Amin, that historic assassin, traitor to the people and country.

The daily HAQIQATI ENQELABI SAWR was published in 8 pages under the editorship of Assadullah Kishtmand and the Kabul NEW TIMES in four pages under the editorship of Rahim Rafat.

NEW DAILY HAILS 'LIBERATION' FROM AMIN RULE

BK170603 Kabul NEW TIMES in English 2 Jan 80 p 2 BK

["Press review"]

[Excerpt] HAQIQATI ENQELABI SAWR (The Reality of the Sawr Revolution) is the first paper to appear at the dawn of liberation from barbaric and outrageous rule of Amin and his clique. The paper echoes the 'realities' of the Sawr Revolution, covered so far behind a smoke screen of despotism.

The first issue of the paper carries an editorial entitled "Reality of the Sawr Revolution. It discusses in length the realities of the victorious Sawr Revolution and the positive changes which were brought about in the life of the working people of the country by this Khalqi uprising.

Then it refers to the conspiracies of a minority group of people who created obstacles in the way of success of such revolutions in order to "serve their class interests with special reference to those who with the help of the American imperialsim began subversive activities in Afghanistan". But since imperialism did not possess any military base over here and was not confident about the future, hence it penetrated into the movement especially the party by using various tactics. The entry into the party by Hafizollah Amin and his clique and their treacherous acts was a best example in this regard.

After elaborating on the treacherous acts perpetuated by Amin and Aminis in the country and implementation of his fascist policies which resulted in merciless killing of thousands of our innocent people, the paper points out how these crimes were committed in the name of progressive ideas, ignoring the fact that they would be finally disclosed along with their shameful acts as it happened soon.

In conclusion the paper expresses firm belief that the Sawr Revolution shall enjoy full support of the masses of the people so long as it sticks to its principles.

PRAGUE REPORTS STATEMENT BY DEPUTY PREMIER KESHTMAND

LD162124 Prague Domestic Service in Czech and Slovak 1600 GMT 16 Jan 80 LD

[Text] Soltan 'Ali Keshtmand, member of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan Central Committee Politburo, member of the Revolutionary Council and deputy premier, has said that the consolidation of the economy disrupted by the activity of the counter-revolutionary forces and the fight against imperialist interference in the internal affairs of Afghanistan are included among the main tasks of the new party and state leadership in Afghanistan. In an interview with a CTK correspondent, he further stated that the main goals of the new government focus primarily on strengthening the economic independence of the state and in speeding up its economic growth. Soltan 'Ali Keshtmand stressed that the party will devote its efforts to a consistent implementation of the final stage of the land reform. The Afghan representative highly praised the results achieved so far in the economic cooperation between Afghanistan and Czechoslovakia, and stressed the great significance of this cooperation for the dynamic development of the Afghan economy.

HAVANA REPORTS ON INTERVIEW WITH ANAHITA RATEBZADEH

FL162328 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 2230 GMT 16 Jan 80 FL

[Text] Kabul--Today Minister Anahita Ratebzadeh told PRENSA LATINA in Kabul that the North American Central Intelligence Agency has failed in its plan to install a fascist regime in Afghanistan and repeat the same experience of Chile. The member of the Afghan Democratic People's Party Politburo said that now the United States and China are planning a large-scale attack against that central Asian country. The Afghan leader added that if it were not for the military aid asked for from the Soviet Union Afghanistan would now be living under a fascist regime. She is the only woman in the maximum political and government organizations in Afghanistan. She said that the mistake made by the CIA was to let the present leaders of Afghanistan remain alive. Most of them were expelled from the government in the middle of 1978 in a conspiracy by the deposed Hafizollah Amin.

MTI Reports Statement

LD171134 Budapest MTI in English 1022 GMT 17 Jan 80 LD

[Text] Budapest, January 16 (MTI)--MTI correspondent reports from Kabul:

"If our people had not overthrown Hafizollah Amin's rule and the Soviet Union had not extended help to our struggle against external intervention, Afghanistan's sovereignty and territorial integrity would have been gravely endangered," said Afghan Public Education Minister Anahita Ratebzad on Wednesday in Kabul.

Madam Ratebzad, member of the political committee of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan, was speaking to special correspondents of communist papers and other newsmen from the socialist countries. She reaffirmed that in most parts of the country the masses of Muslim rebels were surrendering arms to centres marked out for the purpose. At the same time the Afghan Government is making efforts to settle through negotiations all outstanding issues between her country and Iran and Pakistan, she stated.

Foreign correspondents asked her about the situation of women in the country observing Islamic traditions.

"The main cause of the woman problem should not to be sought in Islam, because the Koran does not oppose women's enlightenment. The backwardness and oppressed situation of our country's girls and women are due to economic reasons and conditions inherited from feudalism. These include that the family's bread has to be earned by the head of the family. Now we are trying not through words but deeds to familiarize women with the possibilities of earning livelihood. We are striving to raise them out of feudal conditions, slavery and to impress it upon them to take part in social life," declared Madame Anahita Ratebzad, Afghan public education minister.

BBC DISPELS 'RUMORS' OF HEAVY FIGHTING IN QANDAHAR

TA161552 London BBC World Service in English 1500 GMT 16 Jan 80 TA

[From Radio Newsreel]

[Text] Since the Soviet-backed coup in Kabul 3 weeks ago and the Soviet military intervention that accompanied it, there have been reports of fighting in various parts of Afghanistan. One of these is in the city of Qandahar in the south, near the border with Pakistan and as Terry Mason reports after just visiting Qandahar some of those accounts were wide off the mark.

[Begin recording] The lesson of Qandahar is beware of rumors. Over the past week or so there have been reports of heavy fighting in and around the town with shortages of food and high prices. But the stories of the fighting seem to be based on one incident, on the last day of December, a few days after the coup. On that day Russian troops were said to be moving toward Qandahar from the direction of Herat near which is a big airbase and an angry crowd gathered in the streets. A number of government vehicles were set on fire and rioting went on for some hours. Among the victims were three Russian civilians working at a textile mill outside the town who happened to be on the spot. They were dragged from their jeep and beaten to death.

Armored vehicles of the Afghan Army were deployed and at one stage an air force MIG fighter flew low strafing the rioters, though it is not clear whether the strafing was in earnest or intended mainly to frighten the crowds. Details of casualties are difficult to obtain but they appear to have been barely in double figures, if that, and according to one source, to have included activists of the ruling Khalq Party. Since then, according to knowledgeable observers, the town has been quiet.

For some days after this incident shops remained closed as a continuing sign of protest and this seems to have caused some temporary scarcity. Now, however, shops, including those selling grain, bread, meat and vegetables, are open normally and I saw no queues.

There was no evidence of Soviet troops in the town though reliable assessments say several hundred are based at the airport some miles outside.

AFP REPORTS SOVIET PRESENCE IN SALANG TUNNEL PASS

OW170218 Hong Kong AFP in English 2320 GMT 16 Jan 80 OW

[By Erwan Jourand]

[Text] Salang Tunnel Pass, north Afghanistan, 16 Jan (AFP)--The Soviet military presence in Afghanistan is nowhere more massively evident than here on this highway that leads north to the vital refuelling centres across the frontier in the USSR Republic of Uzbekistan.

Just 200 km (120 miles) from the frontier and 50 km (30 miles) from Kabul, the 3,363 metres-high (11,200 ft) Salang tunnel through the western edge of the Hindu Kush is a mighty feat of Soviet engineering dating from 1964.

The tunnel and the highway to the north were early noted by diplomatic observers in Afghanistan to be potentially a key strategic route in the event of Soviet penetration into the country--a potentiality fully corroborated today.

A formidable procession of fuel tankers, personnel trucks, armoured vehicles, mobile artillery, command cars and radio vans have brought more traffic to this remote mountain highway than ever in history.

At times today correspondents counted tanker vehicles passing at a steady rate of up to 120 an hour, evidently on their way north from Kabul to refuel at Tashkent across the Soviet frontier.

KYODO REPORTS GROWING ANTI-SOVIET RESENTMENT

OW170813 Tokyo KYODO in English 0750 GMT 17 Jan 80 OW

[By Tetsuya Okazaki, KYODO staff correspondent]

[Text] Kabul Jan 17 KYODO--The Afghans are becoming increasingly resentful of the Soviet presence in Kabul. For one thing, the presence of Soviet troops here is hiking up vegetable prices. The Soviet troops buy most of the vegetables and meat they need on the local market. Take the price of potatoes. The price of seven kilograms of this staple recently rose to 42 afghanis (about yen 210) from 32 afghanis (about yen 160). This eats heavily into the budget of the average Afghan who earns 2,000 afghanis a month (about yen 10,000).

On the surface Kabul appears quiet. The Soviets are trying to keep out of sight of citizens. But looking closely one can see Soviet troops guarding strategic points in the city. Everyone except officials of the Babrak Karmal Government seems to be afraid of Soviet soldiers. Even taxi drivers are afraid to stop their cars near the Soviet Embassy, an imposing structure. No one knows for certain how many Russian troops are stationed here, but it is a fact that Soviet civilians are coming into the city in droves since the coup.

An official at the Foreign Ministry, where passports for Russian civilians are piled up, said an average 100 Russians a day are coming to Afghanistan. No doubt most of them are being assigned to government agencies as advisors.

As the Soviet pressure is increasingly felt, resentment against Russians here appears to be rising. One highly-placed official explained to me that "The Russians are here to help us," but I learned that privately he has indicated his displeasure with them. Many intellectuals say Hofizollah Amin was a bad politician, but they also have no warm feeling toward the present ruler. An Afghan who works for an airline gave vent to anti-Soviet sentiment by sayirg, "The Soviet intervention is inhuman. When Japanese or Germans come, they give us work but Russians, they take away everything."

The Karmal government is fully aware of the unpopularity of the Russians here. Using loudspeakers, the authorities tell the populace that the Soviet troops are here to help crush "The U.S. imperialistic scheme" and that they will pull out as soon as they accomplish their mission.

Afghanistan's biggest industry is agriculture, but with the West having suspended their aid to this country, the economy is in a state of stagnation. Afghanistan can now rely on only on the Soviet Union and other pro-Soviet communist nations but these nations themselves are not well off enough to provide economic help.

One cannot help but having the impression here that the Soviet Union has fallen into a quagmire from which there is no easy escape.

NATIONAL ARMY APPARENTLY BEING 'OVERHAULED'

BK171106 Hong Kong AFP in English 1002 GMT 17 Jan 80 BK

[By Erwan Jourand]

[Text] Kabul, 17 Jan (AFP)--The new Afghan authorities are apparently overhauling the 150,000-man Afghan Army which was disorganized by the December 27 coup d'etat.

The hordes of unarmed soldiers seen in the streets immediately after the coup have disappeared, apparently returned to duty or confined to barracks. Army installations are now better guarded. Sentries armed with automatic weapons stand outside all army buildings and are regularly relieved and fed by mobile canteens. The army chain of command seems to be functioning normally in Kabul. Sentries at the airport and outside official buildings salute passing officers. Most Afghan soldiers seen in the streets are unarmed. Only the sentries and a few officers are armed. Sentries are generally equipped with obsolete Soviet weapons, such as Tokarev submachine-guns with a round-shaped magazine. Few Afghan soldiers carry the AK-47 assault rifle or the Kalaschnikov automatic rifle. These are reserved for the Russian infantrymen guarding such important buildings as the Ministry of the Interior or the People's Palace.

The new regime in Kabul seems to be counting on the support of the Afghan Army, or at least on the units that have not deserted since the Soviet intervention. This policy was reflected in a long article yesterday in the official English-language newspaper Kabul NEW TIMES headed: "The army will continue its heroic fight".

The article dealt at length on the Anglo-Afghan wars of the late 19th and early 20th centuries. It said the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan and the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan were deeply grateful to the "heroic officers, patriotic officer cadets and valiant soldiers for their decisive role in the suppression of counter-revolutionary forces as well as the internal and external enemies of the revolution."

The article promised that the authorities would improve the living conditions of soldiers' families and would restore as soon as possible the "political, military and social" rights of the armymen.

GOVERNMENT ORDERS ALL U.S. JOURNALISTS OUT OF COUNTRY

BK171118 Hong Kong AFP in English 1117 GMT 17 Jan 80 BK

[Text] New Delhi, 17 Jan (AFP)--The new Soviet-backed Afghan Government has ordered all U.S. journalists to leave Afghanistan on the next available flight out, Western diplomats said here today. The sources said the U.S. Embassy in Kabul had been told the journalists were being expelled because of "biased reporting."

The action, foreshadowed in published reports in Moscow yesterday, came hard on the heels of a similar expulsion order affecting U.S. journalists in Iran.

The sources said it was not immediately clear whether the order applied to U.S. nationals alone or all those working for American news organizations as well. The sources in New Delhi said a contingent of U.S. reporters had been held since last night under loose guard at the Kabul Intercontinental Hotel, base for most of the journalists who poured into Afghanistan after the Soviet-engineered coup last Dec. 27.

The group, believed to number 30-50 people, including writers, photographers and television camera crews, had been forbidden to leave the hotel premises until they could be flown out of Afghanistan, the sources said.

## INDIA

GANDHI SAYS SHE DOES NOT SUPPORT SOVIET ACTION

BK161552 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 16 Jan 80 BK

[Text] The prime minister, Mrs Gandhi, has said no country is justified in entering any other country. India did not support the Soviet action in Afghanistan. It is only trying to find ways so that the situation does not escalate.

Mrs Gandhi made these remarks while replying to questions by Indian and foreign newsmen in New Delhi a short while ago as she came out of her room to see off Britain's foreign secretary, Lord Carrington. The British minister had a 45-minute meeting with her soon after his arrival in the capital from Pakistan.

Asked by a reporter whether it will be right to say that she and Lord Carrington disagreed in their assessment of the situation, Mrs Gandhi said this is not entirely right; we agree on important points.

To the question whether the developments in Afghanistan are a great danger for the region as a whole, she said these are an increasing danger.

About refugees who have fled that country and gone to Pakistan, Mrs Gandhi said she did not know whether they had fled because of the Soviet action or they had come away earlier. In any case, all the refugees should be allowed to go back to their homes.

Lord Carrington would not say anything about the discussion with Mrs Gandhi except that they had discussed all matters affecting the two countries and world issues.

The external affairs minister, Mr P.V. Narasihma Rao, was also present at the meeting. The British minister is in New Delhi in the course of a visit to countries in west Asia.

On his arrival he told newsmen at the Delhi airport that his talks with Indian leaders would cover the situation in Iran and Afghanistan, which he described as difficult. Lord Carrington said that as an old British friend of India, he would also take the opportunity of congratulating Mrs Gandhi on her victory in the election and assure her of Britain's desire to have the usual good relations with India.

The British minister was received at the airport by the external affairs minister, Mr P.V. Narasimha Rao. Mr Rao expressed the hope that their talks would be fruitful.

MRS GANDHI ON NUCLEAR POLICY, SOVIET INTERVENTION

BK170912 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 17 Jan 80 BK

[Text] The prime minister, Mrs Indira Gandhi, has said that she is not for confrontation with non-Congress-I governments in the states. It is some opposition leaders who have now raised the issue. Mrs Gandhi was addressing a news conference in Trivandrum this morning.

Mrs Gandhi said the Janata and the Lok Dal governments have left behind gigantic problems and the first priority of her government will be to create the proper atmosphere for tackling them. Mrs Gandhi said there is no proposal for any major constitutional amendment by using her party's massive majority in parliament.

About nuclear policy, the prime minister said we do not believe in producing atom bombs. But, we should have the freedom in developing nuclear energy for peaceful purposes.

Referring to the Silent Valley project in Kerala, Mrs Gandhi said it is worthwhile to see whether the same benefit could be achieved without disturbing the ecological balance of the valley.

The prime minister arrived in Trivandrum this morning on a 2-day visit to Kerala. Earlier speaking to newsmen at Begumpet airport in Hyderabad, Mrs Gandhi said that the primary task of her government is to restore the nation's economy which is in a bad shape. It needs to be brought back to the road of development once again.

Asked about the possible expansion of her cabinet, she said certainly not before parliament meets. Mrs Gandhi said her government will consider bringing in fresh antidefection legislation. In fact, her previous government had discussions with the opposition but no broad agreement could be reached.

About the Soviet action in Afghanistan, the prime minister said India does not support outside intervention in any country, but, she added, the Soviet Union entered Afghanistan at the invitation of the Afghan Revolutionary Council.

On her arrival at Trivandrum airport, Mrs Gandhi was received by, among others, the Kerala governor, Mrs Jyothi Venkatachalam, and the state Congress-I leaders.

Later addressing a public meeting in Trivandrum, Mrs Gandhi emphasized the need for the country to constantly move forward along the well-defined direction to achieve stability. She said stability under her regime would mean development, prosperity, communal harmony and safeguarding the interests of the backward and weaker sections of society. Details of Mrs Gandhi speech are still coming in.

LORD CARRINGTON ARRIVES IN NEW DELHI 16 JAN

BK161518 Hong Kong AFP in English 1516 GMT 16 Jan 80 BK

[Text] New Delhi, 16 Jan (AFP)--British Foreign Secretary Lord Carrington arrived here today from Islamabad, Pakistan, on the last leg of his Afghanistan-centered tour of the Middle East and Asia.

Lord Carrington, who was to meet Prime Minister Indira Gandhi later tonight, told newsmen at the airport that he would exchange views with the Indian Government on the "difficult" situation in Afghanistan and Iran as well as discuss bilateral issues.

U.S. ENVOY DELIVERS LETTER FROM CARTER TO MRS GANDHI

BK161248 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1230 GMT 16 Jan 80 BK

[Text] The U.S. ambassador, Mr Robert Goheen, met the prime minister, Mrs Gandhi, in New Delhi today and handed her a message from President Carter. Mr Goheen is just back in India from Washington after consultations with his government. He had gone there in the wake of the developments in Afghanistan.

The French ambassador, Mr Andre Ross, also called on Mrs Gandhi and conveyed the French president's greetings to her.

KARACHI RADIO SAYS GROMYKO'S INDIA VISIT POSTPONED

BK170908 Karachi Overseas Service in Urdu 0800 GMT 17 Jan 80 BK

[Text] An official spokesman in New Delhi has stated that Soviet Foreign Minister Gromyko's visit to India, scheduled at the end of this month, has been postponed. The spokesman said that Mr Gromyko will pay a visit to India in the near future, but it will not be possible during this month.

TIMES OF INDIA ON U.S. ARMS TO PAKISTAN, NUCLEAR FUEL

BK161427 Bombay THE TIMES OF INDIA 12 Jan 80 p 8 BK

[Editorial: "Highly Mixed Up"]

[Text] In its desperate anxiety to respond quickly to the Soviet military intervention in Afghanistan, the United States has mixed up matters which have nothing to do with one another. From their point of view, the Americans have reasons to be concerned over the Soviet action. But their response is almost a case of Pavlovian reflex. They have decided to rush military aid to Pakistan without caring for the possible consequences. Judging by past experience, infusion of foreign arms into Pakistan usually encourages adventuristic tendencies in that country and the temptation to embark on an adventure may be greater in the case of a beleagured military regime, especially if domestic pressure on it to hold elections increases. India can look after its security even in the event of U.S. rearmament of Pakistan, but it will in no way add to Pakistan's security. On the contrary, it can make Pakistan even more vulnerable. The use of U.S. arms to help the Afghan insurgents can provoke the Soviet Union. There is no guarantee that, in such an eventuality the U.S. would be able to take any effective counter-action, Mr. Brzezinski has promised to go to the "defence of Pakistan--if necessary with U.S. forces." But will the introduction of U.S. troops into Pakistan not set in motion a dangerous chain reaction?

That apart, the Americans have mixed up the supply of U.S. nuclear fuel for Tarapur with arms shipments to Pakistan. To add a further "sweetener" to the proposed sop for this country, they have also hinted at the possibility of releasing a navigational system for the IAF's newly-acquired fleet of the Jaguars which the Americans were earlier unwilling to sell to India. By such measures, they can hardly hope to do a balancing trick between India and Pakistan. As for the nuclear fuel for Tarapur, it has nothing whatever to do with either the Soviet Union's intervention in Afghanistan or the U.S. decision on arms for Pakistan. The U.S. is bound by contracts to supply the nuclear fuel for Tarapur until 1993. It has gone back on this commitment on the strength of a retroactive law that requires recipients of nuclear fuel to accept highly discriminatory full-scope safeguards which this country rightly refuses to do. Even now, Mr Carter is not shifting from the basic American position. All he is promising is to sanction two long overdue shipments by an executive order. This does not solve even the limited issue of fuel supplies. Perhaps a comprehensive Indo-U.S. dialogue is called for to take stock of the changed situation in south and south-west Asia.

NEW GOA GOVERNMENT FORMED, PRESIDENT'S RULE LIFTED

BK161634 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 16 Jan 80 BK

[Excerpt] In Goa, the four member Congress-U ministry headed by Mr Pratap Singh Rane assumed office today replacing the 8-month old president's rule in the union territory.

CPI LEADER URGES COOPERATION OF LEFT PARTIES IN LOK SABHA

BK170902 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0730 GMT 17 Jan 80 BK

[Text] The CPI [Communist Party of India] leader, Mr Bhupesh Gupta, has called for close cooperation among all left parties to form a united opposition in parliament. He told a news conference in Cochin that he is not in favor of merger of the parties for the purpose. There are some 56 members of the leftist parties in parliament and it is not a small number.

Parties Cooperate in Bihar

BK170341 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 17 Jan 80 BK

[Text] In Bihar, four parties--The CPI [Communist Party of India], the CPI-M [Communist Party of India-Marxist], the Marxist Coordination and the Forward Bloc have decided to cooperate inside and outside the state legislature to solve the problems facing the country. This was announced by the leaders of the parties in a joint statement in Patna.

CRUDE PRODUCTION IN ASSAM PARTIALLY RESTORED

BK170927 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 17 Jan 80 BK

[Text] Movement of crude from Upper Assam oilfields to different refineries in the state has been restored.

According to official sources, production was resumed at the Gauhati refinery this morning. Digboi and Bongaigon are expected to resume production soon. The refineries remained closed for the last 20 days due to agitation organized by the All-Assam Student's Union and the All-Assam Gana Sangram Parishad [All-Assam People's Struggle Council] demanding deletion of names of foreign nationals from the voter's list.

Meanwhile, mass picketing in the Oil India pipeline headquarters at (Narengi) near Gauhati and other crude oil pumping stations in Upper Assam entered the 22d day today, preventing supply of crude oil through pipelines and railway wagons to the refineries outside the state.

The situation in the curfew bound areas of Kamrup and Cachar districts of Assam shows gradual improvement with no report of any untoward incident during the last 48 hours. Official sources in Gauhati said the curfew has been relaxed for longer duration in the day today. The night curfew would, however, remain in force as a precautionary measure.

PAKISTAN

LORD CARRINGTON PROMISES AID FOR AFGHAN REFUGEES

BK161631 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 16 Jan 80 BK

[Text] British Foreign Secretary Lord Carrington has given assurances that Britain will provide all possible assistance for Afghan refugees in Pakistan. He stated this at a news conference in Peshawar today after visiting a nearby refugee camp and the Pakistan-Afghan border. He was given detailed information on the magnitude of the refugee problem during the course of the tour.

Lord Carrington said that Pakistan faces a big problem which has made him sad, but that he cannot but congratulate the Pakistan Government on the way it is handling the difficult refugee problem. He welcomed the fact that the world community is coming forward with assistance to the Afghan refugees. He said that Britain has done whatever it could in this respect and will continue all possible aid in the future as well.

He said that during his inspection of the Afghan refugee camp, he was briefed on the reasons which forced them to leave their homes. The factors are the same as those which forced many people in Asia and Europe to leave their countries following World War II. He said the Afghan refugees have given proof that they cannot live under domination of those who have taken away their freedom.

He was asked about the implications of the UN General Assembly resolution demanding that foreign troops leave Afghanistan. Lord Carrington said the support extended to the resolution by a large number of nonalined states must have proved a serious setback to the Soviet Union. He was sure that this will be reflected in present and future developments.

He said that the forthcoming Islamic foreign minister's conference in Pakistan has great significance as the Muslim states are very agitated over this Soviet action. He continued: I feel that nonalined and Muslim states are all in agreement that a big country has occupied another neighboring country without its consent.

Referring to his assessment of the situation with President Mohammad Ziaul Haq in Rawalpindi, he stated that this in no way differed from what was said to him during his visits to Turkey, Oman and Saudi Arabia. He said his visits to the area are evidence of how much importance Britain attaches to the independence of the area and the countries therein. He said Pakistan has the support of Britain in the protection of its integrity and independence.

Lord Carrington said Britain is increasing its assistance to Pakistan this year. In reply to a question on Indian apprehensions concerning the strengthening of Pakistani armed forces in view of the new developments, the British foreign secretary said that during his talks in Islamabad he felt that the Pakistan Government is keen to maintain good relations with India. He said he is confident he will find similar sentiments in his talks with the Indian Government during his visit to New Delhi.

The British foreign secretary said he will hold consultations with Britain's European partners at the end of his current tour on what measures to adopt in light of the new developments in the region.

Earlier, the British foreign secretary held talks with elder refugees in the course of his visit to the camp. They informed Lord Carrington that conditions had become impossible for them in Afghanistan and they were forced to take shelter in Pakistan. They said they are grateful to the people and government of Pakistan for looking after them.

The British foreign secretary left Peshawar for New Delhi this afternoon at the end of his 2-day visit to Pakistan.

IRANIAN UNDERSECRETARY ON RETURN OF SHAH, HOSTAGE TRIAL

BK161445 Hong Kong AFP in English 1433 GMT 16 Jan 80 BK

[Text] Karachi, 16 Jan (AFP)--Pakistan and Iran would shortly improve telecommunication links between the two Muslim nations, neighbouring the Soviet Union and Afghanistan, Seyyed 'Ali Musavi Garmarudi, Iran's undersecretary for post, telephone and telegraph said here today.

Mr. Garmaroudi, who arrived here from a tour of Bangladesh last night, told a press conference at the Iranian consulate that the telecommunication links between Iran and Pakistan required improvement and greater dependability in view of the fast developments in the region.

The Iranian official said he would discuss these matters with his Pakistani counterparts in Islamabad.

He said Iran was following a truly independent and non-aligned policy under the leadership of Ayatollah Khomeyni. This was the reason that Iran did not accept the Soviet offer for military aid nor requested the Soviets to veto the United States resolution in the Security Council, calling for economic sanctions against Iran, Mr. Garmarodi added.

He said: "Iran is firm on its demand about the deposed shah's repatriation," the Iranian Government would also hold trials of the American hostages for alleged spying at an appropriate time.

MUSLIM WORLD LEAGUE CALLS ON UN TO LIBERATE JERUSALEM

Karachi MORNING NEWS in English 6 Jan 80 p 6 WA

[Article under Home News in Brief section with headline "Motamar's Call to UN to Get Baitul Maqdis Vacated"]

[Text] Lahore: Jan. 5--All Pakistan convention of the Motamar Aalam-i-Islami [Muslim World League], in its late session under the chairmanship of Syed Zafar Ali Shah, adopted seven resolutions.

In a resolution, it appealed to the United Nations and all freedom lovers of the world to get Baitul Muqaddas [Jerusalem] vacated from the Zionist occupation and restore it to the custody of the Muslims. It favoured the right of self determination for all peoples including the people of Palestine, Kashmir, Namibia, Rhodesia, Philippines, Eritrea, Kampuchea, and Cyprus.

The meeting reiterated that Muslims the world over without any distinction of colour and caste, were inalienable components of Millat-i-Islamia [Muslim nation]. The meeting strongly condemned the deviators' occupation of Haram Sharif [the Grand Mosque in Mecca] and lauded the Saudi Government for ending the occupation very prudently.

The Motamar Aalam-i-Islami was gratified to note that its proposal presented in the last summit of Muslim heads at Lahore for the celebrations of new hegira were being implemented. It urged the Muslim millat to take stock of past mistakes and correct the future policies in accordance with the lessons learnt. It called upon the Motamar branches to arrange hijra celebrations with fervour and enthusiasm.--PPI

AMENDED PETITION SUBMITTED FOR RELEASE OF BHUTTOS

BK161113 Hong Kong AFP in English 1044 GMT 16 Jan 80 BK

[Text] Karachi, 16 Jan (AFP)--Counsel for Begum Nusrat Bhutto, widow of the executed former prime minister Zulfiqar Ali Bhutto, and his daughter Benazir, today submitted an amended petition in the Sind high court here against their detention since October 16 under martial law.

Chief Justice Agha Ali Hyder and Mr. Justice A.V. Akhund fixed Feb. 3 as the date for next hearing of the case. Earlier, the court had been informed that the detention of the two women had been extended for another 90 days by the martial law authorities.

The counsel for the petitioners, former law minister Abbul Hafeez Pirzada, had pleaded for the release of Beg. Bhutto and her 27-year-old daughter.

Both were today taken back to their country home in Larkana, 300 miles north of here, where they are held under house arrest.

BRIEFS

JAPANESE LOAN TO INDIA--The governments of India and Japan exchanged in New Delhi January 14 notes on a Japanese loan to India of an amount of yen 2.7 billion, equivalent to rupees 92 million, for a telecommunication project, and on another Japanese grant assistance to India of an amount of yen 50 million equivalent to rupees 1.7 million at the current exchange rates, for the promotion of archaelogical research in India. Notes to this effect were exchanged between Doctor Manmohan Singh, secretary to the Government of India Ministry of Finance, Department of Economic Affairs, and His Excellency Masao Kanazawa ambassador of Japan to India on behalf of their respective governments. [Text] [Delhi ISI Diplomatic Information Service in English 1430 GMT 14 Jan 80 BK]

AFGHAN REFUGEES IN PAKISTAN--According to latest reports, the number of Afghan refugees who have taken shelter in Pakistan has now gone up to well over 408,000. Radio Pakistan's representative, quoting official sources, says that there are now 342,076 Afghan refugees in the northwest frontier province, 65,000 in Baluchistan and 1,141 in the northern areas. [Text] [Karachi Domestic Service in English 1045 GMT 8 Jan 80 BK]